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LD2906130388 [Editorial Report]

Palestinian Camps in Lebanon

Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf accused Syria of colluding with the United States against the Palestinians, claiming that the evacuation of Shatila Camp is in accordance with a Syrian pledge to the United States to disarm the Palestinians and uproot them from Lebanon, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Sharp criticism of Syria was also voiced by a Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio commentary which claimed that the destruction of Shatila was carried out by U.S. "tools" in the Arab region as part of an attempt to break the uprising in the occupied territories. This "stab in the back" shows that the "renegade regime in Damascus" fears the expansion of the Palestinian uprising, the radio said.

In a related development, Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio broadcast a statement by the "Unified National Leadership of the Uprising" appealing to the leaders of Libya and Algeria to persuade Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to issue immediate orders to his troops to stop the destruction of the Beirut refugee camps. On Libya's role in the evacuation of PLO fighters from Shatila, a Palestinian source cited by the radio confirmed that the entry of Libyan officers into the camp was linked with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's recent talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. For Libya's part, JANA announced that a group of Libyan officers "settled" the fratricidal clashes in Shatila.

On the current situation in the camps, Radio Monte Carlo speculated that the Fatah "Provisional Command" (Abu Musa group) may shortly take military action against Burj al-Barajinah, which is still held by 'Arafat's supporters. Evidence of this threat to 'Arafat's men is a statement by Abu Musa's command calling on 'Arafat to approve the part of the Libyan-sponsored agreement which provides for the return of Abu Musa personnel to positions formerly held in the camp, the radio said. As for the fate of Palestinians evacuated from Shatila, Voice of Lebanon radio noted that 40 pro-'Arafat fighters entered the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp where they were welcomed by some 10,000 Palestinians.

Israel

Rabin in Washington—A White House statement issued after Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's talks with President Ronald Reagan contained "implied criticism" of Israeli policy and conveyed a "blunt warning" to Rabin, Jerusalem radio reported. Earlier, after meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz, Rabin told Jerusalem television that there were differences over human rights and "legal matters," but he stressed that such disagreements do not disrupt the security of Israeli-U.S. relations.

As for Rabin's talks at the Pentagon with Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, the television said the two sides expressed concern about the new situation in the Middle East arising from the Arab states' acquisition of surface-to-surface missiles and chemical weapons. The discussion focused on ways to find "effective solutions" to the problems posed by such weapons. In Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in a Jerusalem radio interview that Israel has "some answers" to missiles, but "these must be improved."

Denial of HA'ARETZ Story—The HA'ARETZ report on agreements with Romania for the transit of Soviet Jews is all "baseless" and "speculation," Jewish Agency head Simcha Dinitz told Jerusalem radio. Dinitz was reacting to the paper's claim that Romania will be paid about $80,000 for every Soviet Jew who emigrates to Israel via Bucharest and that it will also be rewarded with a special trade link with the United States through Israel.

Territories—A general strike was observed throughout the territories 28 June, and two youths were wounded when the IDF dispersed rioters in Nabulus, Jerusalem television noted.

PLO

'Arafat adviser Bassam Abu Sharif's recent call for direct negotiations with Israel at an international conference was criticized by Fatah's Salah Khalaf in a press statement cited by AFP. Khalaf urged an end to Abu Sharif's "political banter" and "deviationist" policies, and he denied Abu Sharif's contention that his declarations are in accordance with PNC resolutions.

In Israel, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told IDF radio that he detected a "new tone" but "no new position" in Abu Sharif's article.

Libya

The USSR has proposed an initiative to reconcile Libya and Egypt, the UAE's AL-ITTIHAD disclosed. The initiative calls for the two countries' foreign ministers to meet and for the restoration of diplomatic relations, the report stated. Citing "informed political sources," AL-ITTIHAD said the proposal was discussed at a recent meeting between a Soviet envoy and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Commenting on Egypt's announcement that it has completed an air defense system, JANA expressed support for the system's deployment if it were "to constitute a trend to sever" relations with Israel and scrap the Camp David accords.

Diplomatic relations will "soon" be established with Chad, according to a TANJUG report. The Libyan foreign minister will go to Gabon "in early July" to hold talks with Chad on the issue, the report stated. Libreville radio said they will discuss the Aozou strip border dispute.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian claims that an Iraqi fighter plane was downed in the northern sector 28 June, INA reported. The report did not mention Iran's claim to have repulsed an Iraqi attack in the Darband-i Khan area. The Iranian military communique carried by IRNA also failed to mention fighting in that area but reported a raid in the north by Iraq's I Army Corps.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn denied that Iraq's recent offensives were surprise attacks, INA reported. Husayn said the United States "used all means" to inform the Iranians about Iraqi troop concentrations, including information obtained from satellites. He emphasized that despite the resulting Iranian preparations, Iraq was still able to penetrate 30 kms into Iranian territory.

Kuwait

The Defense Ministry issued a statement on an arms purchase from Egypt, THE KUWAIT TIMES reported. The statement did not disclose any details of the deal but the report cited diplomatic sources who said it involved the sale of "about 100" armored personnel carriers and an "integrated air defense system," which is intended to "help stop Iranian missiles."

The State Security Court sentenced a Kuwaiti national to 10 years imprisonment and dismissal from service for "sabotage and planning assassinations," according to KUNA. Two other defendants received lighter sentences and two were acquitted on charges of "collusion to murder," destruction of buildings and utilities, and using force and violence against prison officers, the report stated.

Afghanistan

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement condemning Pakistan for allowing the mujahidin to form an interim coalition government, Kabul radio reported. The statement said efforts by Pakistan to unite Afghan rebel forces constitute a "big obstacle" that will create an "unnatural and illegal" element in relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The statement called for U.S. and Soviet attention to the "unpleasant and dangerous consequences" of Pakistan's "territorial violation."

Inter-Arab Affairs

Soviet Initiative To Reconcile Egypt, Libya

JN2806143288 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 27 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD has learned that the USSR proposed a new initiative a few days ago designed to bring about a reconciliation between Egypt and Libya and that the Soviet ambassador in Cairo has informed Egyptian officials of the contents of this initiative.

Informed political sources in Cairo told AL-ITTIHAD that the Soviet initiative is based on respect for international and regional conventions pertaining to good neighborliness, respect for international borders, and noninterference of both states in each other's internal and external affairs. The sources added that the initiative also calls for the holding of a meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers in a country to be agreed upon by both states through Arab-Soviet contacts.

According to the initiative, such a meeting would be followed by the restoration of diplomatic relations. The sources added that Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, sounded out the views of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on a possible Soviet role in bringing about an Egyptian-Libyan reconciliation during their recent meeting in Cairo.

Jordanian Official on Ties With PLO

JN2606120488 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 23 Jun 88 p 19

[Rakan al-Majali dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpt] A great deal has been written about the Algiers summit. I have had the opportunity to meet with several Arab diplomats who participated in the summit. I have also had the opportunity of talking to several Palestinian and Jordanian officials who participated in the summit. After these contacts, I asked a senior Jordanian official for an interview with AL-QABAS. He asked me: Do you want to interview me or to know what happened? I said: What is the difference? He said: If you want to mention my name, then I would like to speak in general, cautiously, and in brief. I said: In fact, I want a frank interview and I appreciate the reasons behind not mentioning your name. The following interview was held with him:

[Question] What really happened regarding the Jordanian-Palestinian issue and your talks with the PLO?

[Answer] We in Jordan and his majesty the king went to the summit knowing that the PLO is making several demands and conditions. However, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] came the next day, prior to the opening session, and addressed the king in a positive way, saying: You are our big brother, we are your younger brothers, and you should be tolerant with us. We should cooperate with each other. The dialogue between us, God willing, will be resumed in the future. After this courtesy, King Husayn said: Let us make use of our time and allow the brother members of the two delegations to get together and discuss all matters.

We had information that the PLO had presented several plans and demands, and we said that here was an opportunity to hear from them directly. We sat with the PLO team after this meeting. Attending the meeting on the PLO side were Jamal al-Surani, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, 'Abdallah Hurani, 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, and Hani al-Hasan; and members of the Jordanian delegation were present. They presented us with two draft resolutions—one on the uprising and another on the international conference. We began discussing them, including exaggerations and aspects of their composition. Each one of their statements was followed by the phrase: the sole and legitimate representative. We told them that we have no objection to this. However, we detest repetition. Our objection was based on the composition.

However, we did have some major objections. The first objection was that the PLO had in one of its paragraphs the statement that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories. We told them that this was serious talk and we did not accept it at all. We told them that this entailed serious things that neither we nor they were ready for. They replied: Brothers, do not be angry because by this we mean the Palestinians in Lebanon and Syria who bear [travel] documents. We told them that we could not understand this. They said: If this is a sensitive issue, then we will delete it. It was actually deleted after less than 2 minutes.

The other point that we tried to amend as much as we could was related to support for the Palestinians in the occupied territories and aid to bolster their steadfastness through the PLO and available international channels. We told them that this statement excludes us and that we do not accept it because we have relations with the West Bank. We have legal obligations to the people there to whom we pay salaries and pensions. We told them that we also pay for schools in Jerusalem. They told us that they did not mean us by this and that they meant some other states that attempt to send aid through channels other than the PLO. They said: We want all payments to take place through us to be able to control the situation. They said: Find us another formula and we will accept it. They did not want to mention Jordan by name to avoid making an exception.

We sat and worked on the formula and told them that the expression should be as follows: The aid should go through the PLO, the available international channels, and the regular channels especially since Jordan is a channel and the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee is a regular channel. A difference emerged at this point.

However, after this and prior to the final session, the Jordanian prime minister met with Abu 'Ammar and told him: Abu 'Ammar, what we mean by regular channels is Jordan.

[Question] Thus, what was issued in the communique was the regular channels?

[Answer] No, the international and regular channels. This was the second point.

[Question] Anything else?

[Answer] There was a third point saying that Palestinians residing and working in Jordan should be allowed to extend aid to the uprising. We told them—and we presented this to the Arab League in writing after the summit—that this does not concern us because we have neither resident nor working Paletinians. What we have are Jordanians and, therefore, look for other Palestinians. What we mean by other Palestinians are the document bearers. The Gulf officials protested against this, following which the amendment included the statement: Each according to its regulations. This what happened between the PLO and us.

When we began discussing the issue of the international conference we had no differences. They wanted to include the Fes summit resolutions. We told them that we have no objection to this and that we agree, especially since his majesty the king has led four delegations to four of the big powers' capitals to entrench this. We had no problem in this regard. However, we did not want this to be a precondition for holding the international conference. We found a positive response and understanding from the PLO. An agreement was reached in this regard and the Amman summit formula regarding the international conference was approved. The situation now is that these are our constants, with which we will go to the international conference.

However, these are not conditions for holding the international conference or for our participation in it. If our conditions are accepted, then it is good, and if not, then it is an issue that will be subject to negotiations. These amendments were accepted, and the PLO presented the draft resolutions to the drafting committee. The drafting committee was formed of all the Arab foreign ministers. These two draft resolutions were presented with the amendments on which we agreed. We had no discussion with the PLO on the draft resolution to the point that what was published about Jordan's having no objection to the Palestinian draft resolutions was true. However, it was said that there was a mistake regarding the date. This was true. The Syrians were astonished at our stand. This was regarding us and the Palestinians. [passage omitted]

Maghreb States Form Chambers of Commerce Union

LD2406101988 Tripoli JANA in English 0383 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al Sayf [June] 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The chairmen of the unions of chambers of commerce and industry of Great Jamahiriyah, Tunisia, Algeria, Mauritania and Morocco have agreed to form a union for chambers of commerce and industry amongst Arab Maghreb countries.

It was also decided that a committee be formed to formulate the preparing of a founding regulation for this union to be approved during the second meeting of the chairmen scheduled to be held in Morocco next Hanibal [August] month.

That came during a meeting held by the chairmen of Arab Maghreb chambers of commerce and industry in Tripoli on 20 and 21 of the current Al Sayf month.

The chairmen sent a cable to the leader of the revolution in which they highly appreciated his efforts to close the ranks of the Arab nation and unite it confronting its enemies.

In their cable, they said: "We pledge to you that we continue the serious work to build a solid national economy capable of facing all economic challenges and groupings and to press ahead on your line in construction and smashing all boundaries and chains to arrive at the pan-Arab unity".

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Interview With RUDE PRAVO Cited

LD2906081188 Prague CTK in English 0621 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Prague June 29 (CTK)— The Palestine Liberation Organization plans to step up the Palestinian people's struggle through a partial and later absolute civil disobedience campaign but this means to prepare properly for this task and to expect still greater pressure from the Israeli occupiers, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said. [sentence as received]

In an interview carried by today's Czechoslovak Communist Party newspaper RUDE PRAVO, dealing with the prospects of the Palestinian people's uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories, the PLO leader said that Israelis had thought that the killing of Abu Jihad would help them suppress the uprising.

"However, this crime gave our people new energy though they have to pay dearly for their struggle," he said, and added that so far 371 Palestinians were killed, 1,600 pregnant women lost their babies due to various brutal acts by Israelis, over 10,000 Palestinians suffered injuries, 3,400 of them were completely crippled and 22,000

people are in Israeli jails and concentration camps. In this connection Yasir 'Arafat condemned Israeli actions against Palestinian property.

Asked to assess the support given to the PLO and the uprising at the recent Arab summit in Algiers, Yasir 'Arafat said "there had been many attempts in the past to ignore the inalienable Palestinian national rights. Some of these attempts came also from Arab countries, I do not wish to name them. But what is important is that we were supported by Arab brothers at this important time". In this context he emphasized the fact that a movement in support of Palestinian rights is beginning to develop among intellectuals and army officers in Israel itself.

The PLO leader appreciated the support given to the idea of holding an international conference on the Middle East. Apart from the socialist countries, which have traditionally backed this idea, it has been recently supported for the first time also by EEC countries. Yasir 'Arafat stressed that the conference must be held under the aegis of the United Nations, with the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties including the PLO taking part on an equal footing.

'Arafat 'Personally Behind' Abu Sharif Document

JN2806192188 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Statements denouncing the document of the so-called Bassam Abu Sharif, Yasir 'Arafat's press adviser, continue to be made. PFLP Assistant Secretary General Abu 'Ali Mustafa has made the following statement in Sidon:

Over the past 10 days, the press and the other information organs have been reporting on the serious political document that Bassam Abu Sharif had distributed. These press reports also contain reactions to this document.

He said: As a member of the PLO Executive Committee, I would like to clarify the following: No Palestinian political body or institution has anything to do with this document from near or far.

Abu 'Ali Mustafa added: It became clear to me through cogent information that Yasir 'Arafat is personally behind the issuance of the referent document.

Khalaf Accuses Syria of 'Colluding' With U.S.

JN2806133488 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, today said that the control by the Fatah dissidents under Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] of the Shatila camp yesterday can never mean the end of history. Abu Iyad accused Syria of colluding with the United States to disarm the Palestinians and expel them from Lebanon.

In a statement he issued in Tunis today, Abu Iyad said the evacuation of the Shatila camp is a link in the U.S.-Syrian agreement which Syria pledged to implement prior to the holding of the Lebanese presidential elections. This agreement eventually seeks to disarm the Palestinians and uproot the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, as he termed it.

On the other hand, Abu Iyad launched a violent campaign criticizing the recent statements made by Bassam Abu Sharif, personal adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Abu Iyad called for ending Abu Sharif's political follies as well as his devious statements on every topic He said these statements are a desperate attempt to undermine sacred constants and justify the offering of concessions. Abu Iyad added these statements have begun to elicit manifestations of the ghost of division among the Palestinians.

Appeal To End Camps War Made to Libya, Algeria

JN2806185388 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Jun 88

["Call" to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid from the "Unified National Leadership of the Uprising" on the situation in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps— date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. No voice can rise above the voice of the uprising. Call from the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhddhafi, brother leader of the 1 September Revolution and Brother President Chadli Bendjedid: For 2 months, the camps of our Palestinian people in Beirut have been subjected to an organized genocidal war, complementing the task of the Zionist enemy against our masses inside our occupied territories.

The aim of this war is to abort their heroic uprising, which has, thus far, offered hundreds of martyrs and thousands of wounded and detainees. Regrettably, an Arab weapon that was supposed to support the heroes of stones and Molotovs in Palestine is now being used to shed the blood of the fathers, mothers, and brothers of the hero children of the uprising.

In the name of the children of the uprising in our occupied territories, we call upon Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, brother leader of the 1 September Revolution, and Chadli Bendjedid, brother leader of the people of 1.5 million martyrs, to intervene immediately to convince President Hafiz al-Asad to issue immediate

orders to his troops to stop the destruction of the Beirut camps and save our masses there, which constitute our strategic depth, from the genocidal war to which they are being subjected.

We are confident that our brothers the colonel and the president will do all in their capacity to achieve this noble aim that will help escalate our uprising until the establishment of our indiepended Palestinian state under the leadership of our sole legitimate representative, the PLO.

The children of stones and Molotovs have great hopes for a [word indistinct] Libyan-Algerian move to save their brothers in the Beirut camps from certain death. In the name of the common destiny, we appeal to you brother colonel and brother president to respond to this call. Saving the masses of our people in the Beirut camps is the greatest support that can be provided to our gigantic uprising during these fateful crcumstances.

We are currently facing the risk of annihilation at the hands of friend and foe alike simultaneously. We are one people. Any harm to any part will paralyze all the people. History will never tolerate those who plot against our unified people under their sole legitimate leadership, the PLO.

PLO Radio Links 'Uprising' to Camps Fighting

JN2806194388 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1702 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Political commentary: "The Uprising Will Continue Until Victory Despite the Enemies' Plots and the Treason of Their Lowly Tools"]

[Text] O brothers, O masses of our great Palestinian people, O sons of our glorious Arab nation: In its confrontation with the escalating heroic uprising of our valiant Palestinian people, the Zionist enemy's crises and serious impasses are exacerbating. The Zionist enemy will continue its blundering. This has led it and will continue to lead it from one failure to another and from one defeat to another toward the inevitable comprehensive defeat.

The 7-month hideous campaigns of repression, killing, and annihilation, which are still being escalated against our people and their brave uprising, have not stopped the resolute uprising. These campaigns have kindled it, increased its challenge, promoted our people's performance, and diversified its effective methods. We say and reiterate that the enemy's comprehensive defeat is inevitable. We mean the enemy will emerge from its impasse to the natural, logical end— the comprehensive defeat. This is because the logic of conflict and history and the will of our people have decided this result. Our people's determination to continue the great uprising and their unlimited sacrifices entrench this result.

However, the enemy will not accept its defeat and surrender to the current, which, although it is slow, is also deep and sweeping [words indistinct]. With Washington's absolute support, the enemy will try another way out to continue its occupation of our territory and to reduce to the lowest level its strategic losses in terms of its morale. Within this context, the enemy only finds Washington to seek refuge with each time it feels a grave danger to its entity and the foundations of its existence.

In light of this, we understand why the Zionist war minister visits Washington frequently during this period. He is there today to discuss with his allies, as the reports affirm, the situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. This means he is discussing with his allies how to confront the uprising and extinguish its flames which have reached everything in the enemy entity.

Enemy war minister Yitzhaq Rabin is now discussing in Washington various plans to abort the uprising by striking at it from inside and outside. Undoubtedly, Washington has tools in the Arab region which it can assign the role of striking at the uprising from outside; that is, to stab it in the back. These tools have actually begun this role. Yesterday, one of the missions and links of this role was accomplished by destroying the Shatila Camp in Beirut in a serious escalation to uproot and annihilate the entire Palestinian presence in Lebanon. The enemy and its agents believe this blow can break the valiant uprising.

Therefore, they are determined to achieve this blow in a decisive way. Hence, the PLO's warning came yesterday in its statement which announces that Shatila is a symbol of our longstanding national struggle. The PLO statement urges the active forces in our Arab nation to show more vigilance and concern toward the fate which is being prepared for our Palestinian people in Lebanon and the plots being concocted against the uprising.

The PLO affirmed that what happened to Shatila was a stab in the back of the uprising. This stab has completely exposed the fear of the wretched regimes, such as the renegade regime in Damascus, of the expansion of the flames of the valiant uprising to its fields which need one spark only to turn them into ashes. The uprising will inevitably send this spark to these dry fields. This means and affirms that the enemy, their lowly tools, and the degenerate tools of these tools cannot stop the march of the gigantic uprising regardless of their acts and plots. The uprising will move with vigor and determination toward its certain dawn, the dawn of liberty, independence, and great victory.

Algeria

Reportage on Visit to Algiers by Libya's Jallud

Statement on Unity

LD2706192288 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1610 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Algiers, 27 June [JANA]—Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud said in a press statement: We will discuss the one destiny of the two revolutions and the Arab nation. He added: We are making up for the past years and are making an extraordinary effort to compensate for the past. [passage omitted]

The two revolutions need to take the initiative and turn words into deeds, he added, noting that the visit would culminate in an actual action for an integrated project which would form the basis for the unity project at the bilateral level of the great Jamahiriyah and Algeria, and at the Arab Maghreb level, and also as an essential step toward Arab unity.

Regarding the Arab Maghreb summit, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud said that unity is first and foremost a political desire and one of awareness of the unity issue. This desire will form the basis of the unity process. If the matter were left to the masses in the Arab Maghreb region these masses are unionist by nature.

He said that the action resulting from the meeting will depend on the work in which the Great Fatih Revolution and the glorious November Revolution would succeed. He said: we appreciate the results we have achieved toward unity, and it would be possible for the five-sided meeting to achieve results toward bringing about the unionist plan.

On the prospects for cooperation and unionist integration between the Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria, Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud said that the prospects are complete economic, cultural, political and social integration and the ability of our structures and desire to achieve this amicable unionist integration supported by political will in both countries. Aware cadres in the two countries will implement the unionists will and will transform charters and minutes into material action.

With this in mind he pointed out that unity between the two countries is a popular unity that will allow the greatest contact between cadres and popular masses supported by political will so that the cadres and popular masses will be able to proceed [words indistinct] and perform their roles to translate this plan into material action. [passage indistinct]

Joint Commission Begins Work

LD2706200188 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud arrived today in Algiers. He was accompanied by 'Umar al-Muntasir, the secretary of the General People's Committee in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The two men are leading important delegation, which was welcomed by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, the official in charge of the FLN Central Committee, and Abdelhamid Brahimi, the prime minister. The delegation was also welcomed by other senior officials of the party and the state. [passage omitted]

The work of the joint Libyan-Algerian commission began this afternoon under the chairmanship of Mohamed Cherif Messaadia and Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud. The session was opened by Messaadia with a speech in which he said:

We have gone a long way and achieved important steps. Thus, today we are working contentedly because we have consolidated the roots of confidence between our two peoples and countries. We are meeting on more than one level, consolidating progress, and strengthening the basis of continuity. Today's meeting is noteworthy because it is the culmination of several meetings and serves as an evaluation and an embodiment of hope for all the activities in order to pave the way for the achievement of greater objectives.

For his part, Staff Maj Jallud said in his speech that work is being done based on the confidence between the leadership and peoples of the two countries to carry out the political merger scheme. He said: We look upon the issue of unity between the two countries from a revolutionary perspective; we have benefitted from previous experiences, and this revolutionary scheme will lead to the creation of the foundation for the greater Arab homeland, for logical reasons.

The work of the commission continued this evening with the holding of a meeting between the executive bodies under the chairmanship of Abdelhamid Brahimi and 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The two sides proceeded to evaluate the phases that have been accomplished since the last meeting which was held in Tripoli at the end of last year. They noted their satisfaction over the steps that have been taken.

The appointment of members to the managerial boards of the joint Algerian-Libyan companies was made this evening at the Mithaq Residence under the auspices of Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, and 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. [passage omitted]

The companies in which the appointments were made are: the Algerian-Libyan Arab Company for the Exploration and Production of Petroleum; the Algerian-Libyan Arab Company of Geophysics; the Algerian-Libyan Arab Company for the Manufacture of Engines; the Algerian-Libyan Arab Company of Exchange Funds; the Libyan-Algerian Arab Company for Light Passenger and Freight Vehicles; and the Algerian-Libyan Arab Company for Desert Vehicles.

At a later date, the managerial boards of the following companies will be appointed: The Arab Maghreb Company for the Transport of Natural Gas, and the Joint Company for Implementing, Equipping, and Operating the Aluminum Complex.

Bendjedid Receives Jallud

LD2806212888 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Today at the Presidency, President Chadli Bendjedid, FLN Secretary General, received Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud. The audience was attended by Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official of the Permanent Secretariat of the Central Committee; Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau; Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau; and Miloud Hamrouche, secretary general of the Presidency; also attending the audience were 'Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the Libyan General People's Committee, and the ambassadors of both countries. [passage omitted]

JANA Reports Talks

LD2806214488 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1820 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Algiers, 28 June (JANA)—Today, President Chadli Bendjedid received Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud at the Presidency. [passage omitted] An enlarged meeting was later held with the participation of several members of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress; the secretary of the General People's Committee for Public Service; Djelloul Malaika, deputy speaker of the Algerian National People's assembly; Abderrezzak Bouhara, member of the FLN Permanent Secretariat in charge of foreign relations; and Faysal Boudraa, Algerian minister of heavy industries.

The meeting examined and discussed various unionist steps between the two sister countries and the joint economic and industrial projects undertaken to reinforce the unionist steps between the Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria.

Staff Maj Jallud stressed the importance of the unionist decisions and steps achieved by the Higher Executive Committee grouping the General People's Committee in the Great Jamahiriyah and the Council of Ministers in sister Algeria. In a statement to Algerian media after his meeting with President Chadli Bendjedid, he said that numerous decisions had been taken to continue the implementation of joint projects which would ensure the building of unity. He added:

We are eager to work out all the details of the unionist plans because we consider them the central issue for those who believe in unionist action, and these moves do not depend on bureaucratic work. This requires all the brother secretaries in the General People's Congress and the Algerian Council of Ministers to follow them up in order to carry out these unionist steps at the earliest possible time.

Furthermore, Staff Maj Jallud hailed President Chadli for abiding by the historical decisions which embody the will of the Arab people in Algeria and that of the Arab nation in achieving unity.

He said that this will, which was expressed by President Chadli, was a good omen to all militants and to the Arab people in the Great Jamahiriyah and sister Algeria and also to the masses of the Arab nation.

Egypt

State Minister Ghali Cited on USSR Ties

JN2306205188 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 22 Jun 88 pp 23, 25

[Interview with Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Sawsan Abu Husayn in Cairo—date not given]

[Excerpts] [Abu Husayn] How does Egyptian diplomacy react to the fact that a minority of the 18 Arab states that have reinstated ties with Egypt opposes Egypt's joining in a common Arab effort?

[Ghali] If some Arabs feel uncomfortable about Egypt regaining its normal weight in joint Arab action and giving it the right to lead the sound march despite its absence from the Arab League framework, this is not Egypt's problem. This runs against a convinced majority sentiment in the Arab world that Egypt has made immense intellectual and material contributions to the Arab nation. Not that we need a certificate from anyone. Let it not be forgotten that Egypt is above all attempts to cause amnesia and ingratitude. Egypt is too magnanimous to lose its temper.

[Abu Husayn] How do you assess the outcome of the Algiers summit?

[Ghali] That the Algiers summit succeeded in backing the Palestinian uprising is in any case a step forward in an era of Arab dispersion and the absence of Arab momentum. Arab consensus is now needed to back the valiant, popular Palestinian revolution, which marks a postive element and dynamic factor on the entire Arab

scene. It is incumbent upon the Arabs to rally around the uprising, giving it total support so that it will continue to vent Arab anger until its sacred fire demolishes the illusions of world public opinion about the justice and humanity of Israel.

For its part, Egypt is keeping to its pan-Arab role consistently and unfailingly. Furthermore, all of Egypt's resources, potential, and international standing are at the disposal of the Arab causes within or without the framework of the institutions of joint Arab action, as has been born out by practical experience. Egypt's performance and its reaching out to fellow Arabs is a mission, destiny, and history. [passage omitted]

[Abu Husayn] Egyptian-Soviet relations have over the past 17 years experienced many changes, with an erosion in the Soviet role and a higher American profile probably the most notable example. How has this affected Egyptian-Soviet relations in the political, military, and economic spheres?

[Ghali] I have no doubt that crises and political storms are the ultimate test of relations between peoples and nations. Over the past 10 years, Egyptian-Soviet relations have been severely tested. Having withstood the test, these ties tended to improve gradually and then reached a new phase of normalcy and understanding thanks to the political leaderships in the two countries. It is highly significant that even during the curtailed ties in the pre-Mubarak era, the line of communications between Cairo and Moscow remained open in the interest of a network of material relations. By this I mean the continuation of Soviet technical assistance to Egyptian projects. Add to that the fact that both political leaderships, even in the difficult periods, had their eye on the future given their cognizance of the objective facts and their concern not to get carried away with emotion and transient nerves.

As President Mubarak took office, the road opened to increased economic, commercial, technical, scientific, and literary cooperation. For practical considerations, the Soviet cultural and consular centers resumed their operation. The Egyptian-Soviet Friendship Society, which I chair, also was revived.

It is fair to call the recently concluded Egyptian-Soviet cooperation agreement a new chapter in relations between Cairo and Moscow, dramatizing their concern to have permanent, normal, balanced ties in the age of international detente. Egypt only hopes the new relations which were ushered in by economic projects that found expression in the cooperation pact will mark a fresh start that transcends the more recent pitfalls and brings back the first period of our prospering cooperation.

[Abu Husayn] Do you expect the Soviet Union to play a more positive role toward finding a solution to the Middle East issue and what is the significance of the restoration of normal relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union?

[Ghali] The Soviet Union is one of the two superpowers ruling the present world and it is certain that its political and realistic presence in the Middle East issue is a decisive and essential element that can neither be ignored nor sidestepped, especially in such conflicts which have become part of the global confrontation that is governed by this domineering bilateral polarization. Relations between the Middle East and the Soviet Union are dictated not only by contemporary politics, but also by geographical and geostrategic factors related to neighborliness, interests, and both national and international security.

There is no doubt that the Soviet Union's role is essential and vital, whether under cold war relations and East-West tension or under world reconciliation and rapprochement between the socialist and capitalist worlds. The Soviet role might become more important and effective when rapprochement and reconciliation prevail between Washington and Moscow. I would like to add that this importance and effectiveness will assume deeper and more positive dimensions when the Soviet stand emerges on clear bases and steady concepts regarding the need to solve regional issues in general, and the Middle East question and the Palestinian people's rights in particular.

The Soviet position supports the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and backs their struggle for freedom under the PLO's leadership. It also stresses the need to respect the interests of all parties to the conflict. It believes that the only realistic road toward a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East issue should go through an international conference upon which there is large-scale world agreement. The Soviets are also offering to restore their diplomatic relations with Israel at the beginning of the international conference.

While welcoming an active Soviet role in the preparation of an appropriate atmosphere for holding the aspired international conference, we look forward to further Soviet action in the contacting of various international parties, be they the United States, West Europe, or Israel. We welcome this role because Egypt and the Arabs are eager for an active Soviet presence on the Middle East stage and a positive Soviet role in an international peace conference. What can be achieved through Soviet participation will be better than what can be achieved if matters are left solely to the U.S. It is also no secret that the guarantees the Soviet Union can offer for the attainment of a settlement will be among the most important factors in bringing this settlement into the stage of real implementation and in reaching a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in this area, which is vital for world peace.

[Abu Husayn] Did Shultz' fourth tour of the region achieve positive results to promote the peace process in the Middle East?

[Ghali] Egyptian diplomacy supports efforts by U.S. diplomacy for peace in the Middle East regardless of what these efforts have achieved thus far. We also support these efforts regardless of the fact that Egyptian diplomacy may not be in complete agreement with the content of the U.S. initiative or with parts of it. My personal analysis is that the U.S. initiative will not succeed unless the United States promotes it in a way that conforms with the realities confirmed by the Palestinian uprising, whether in regard to the need to end Israeli occupation of Arab territories or with regard to leading the Palestinian people's struggle to realize their legitimate national aspirations.

The uprising, which has entered its 7th month, is one of the most important factors that initiated the new U.S. move in order to attain a comprehensive political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Given this, ignoring both the uprising's means and the requirements of a comprehensive and just settlement will not perpetuate the U.S. initiative, which will be deadlocked as Shultz himself said when he warned Israel that there is danger of a possible new war.

I would like to emphasize that there is an available opportunity to revive the peace process in the Middle East if the United States adopts a more just stand on the Palestinian people's rights and on an international conference for peace, and also if it adopts a more decisive stand toward Shamir's opposition to the Shultz initiative. This is because a U.S. recognition of the facts that govern the conflict in the region and that, consequently, govern the peace which can be attained as a settlement of this conflict, is the way to an Israeli recognition of these facts.

[Abu Husayn] When will Shamir stop saying "No" to an international conference and to recognition of the Palestinian people's rights?

[Ghali] Regrettably, Shamir still insists on maintaining his position contrary to the whole international community. This community has adopted numerous resolutions; at the United Nations, in regional and bilateral statements, and in various effective world conferences. Shamir has even violated the outcries of wise Israelis and of the Jews who care for their interests and who are opposed to Shamir's reckless policies. This applies even to Jews in the United States. Moreover, Shamir still maintains his inflexibility, which is neither understood nor justified. He also affirms his hostility not only to Palestinian rights, but also to the Palestinians themselves, by employing repressive measures and heavily armed troops—but without a desired objective or a goal that may be achieved.

Shamir's strange logic still rejects any preparations for an international conference on the pretext that such a conference will pave the way to the establishment of a Palestinian state, which, according to Shamir's own logic, will only be an opportunity granted by the international community to destroy Israel in the long run. Obviously, such logic is based on a wrong conception and falsehood because a Palestinian state will coexist with the State of Israel through a declared commitment and also because the Palestinians are looking forward to a peace based on justice—peace which will secure for them a homeland and a future. Moreover, the Palestinians, and not the Israelis, are being destroyed. [passage omitted]

Former Palestine Department Head Interviewed

PM2806152188 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic
21 Jun 88 p 6

[Interview with Dr Taha al-Farnawani, former head of the Palestine Department in the Foreign Ministry, by Mahmud Bakri; place, date not specified]

[Text] What is the opinion and stand of Dr Taha al-Farnawani, former head of the Palestine Department at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, regarding the decision to transfer him from his position because of his hostile positions toward Israel. AL-SHA'B met with and interviewed him on a number of issues:

[Bakri] Dr Taha, how was Your Excellency transferred from the Palestine Department to the Immigration Department?

[Al-Farnawani] The fact is that everything was carried out hastily and in a strange way. I was suddenly informed of the transfer decision. I was requested to respond quickly to the decision. The decision had clear indications. I am not eager to cling to any position or status, since positions do not last.

[Bakri] What about the circumstances surrounding the issuance of the decision?

[Al-Farnawani] Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin made threats, saying that Taha al-Farnawani had promised the PLO that it could open an office in Al-'Arish—which violates the peace treaty in that it would allow the Palestinian fedayeen to infiltrate across Egyptian borders into Israel. The Israeli chief of staff made similar statements, which are not new, since they were preceded by numerous interactions in Israel. They accused Egypt, holding it responsible for the infiltration of the three fedayeen who carried out the Dimona operation—something which we rejected and denied. We told them: We cannot guard your borders; they did not infiltrate across the borders; and the claim that they had Egyptian documents on them is untrue. This is because no one embarking on a fedayeen action would carry his identification card or passport. And even if they held Egyptian passports, under an Egyptian-Israeli agreement the sons of the Gaza Strip are entitled to hold Egyptian passports.

[Bakri] And what is your position now regarding the transfer decision?

[Al-Farnawani] You can consider me on leave until I depart from my office in 4 months. What I would like to say is that I will not be pressured.

[Bakri] How would you assess what has happened?

[Al-Farnawani] I cannot make any judgment. I will leave others to make their judgment in view of the circumstances we are now experiencing. Obviously, during government service, any minister or official can be transferred from one quarter to another. But this should be done in a straightforward way; not to transfer someone, after 7 years of service in the same position, to another, totally unfamiliar position. During my 34 years at the Foreign Ministry, I have never worked, even once, in a technical department. My work, both at home and abroad, has always been political. Perhaps the strangest thing in this regard is that I am leaving service in 4 months time, 2 of which I will be taking as sick leave.

[Bakri] Dr Taha, how do you visualize a stand backing the Palestinian cause?

[Al-Farnawani] All the patriotic elements must rise up to defend the Palestinian cause, which is our pan-Arab cause and the cause of pan-Arab security.

[Bakri] What is your concept of peace?

[Al-Farnawani] We are in support of peace, but against surrender. And by no means will we accept the imposition of any conditions on us.

[Bakri] If your nationalist stands are the cause of what has happened to you, what are your future plans?

[Al-Farnawani] During the past stage and via my various contacts and frequent meetings, I found out that a very big gap has occurred in society over the last 10 years. There is an increasing passiveness toward our Arab causes, especially that of Palestine. Our role now is to put the Egyptian and Arab house in order, reorganize our nationalist forces, adopt a firm stand against any foreign interference or occupation of our Arab territories, and to develop our resources and spread hope and optimism among our people.

[Bakri] How do you see the future of the Palestinian uprising, 6 months after its eruption?

[Al-Farnawani] The uprising has proven that the Palestinian people have taken their fate into their own hands. The uprising has had an enormous impact in Israel. It has led to the deterioration of morale among Israeli soldiers and officers. Israel is paying a huge price for the defense budget and the Army. And despite U.S. aid, it will not be able to shoulder this burden in the long run.

At the Palestinian level, the uprising has eliminated the barrier of fear from imperialism and has proven that it is doomed to disappear. The uprising has raised the morale of the sons of the Palestinian people and brought about complete harmony, solidarity, and unity at all stages. The uprising has proven that the Palestinian people will not accept any interference or bargaining and that their objective is to liberate the land and establish an independent state, which is the whole objective and destiny for the uprising.

[Bakri] What is the purpose of current U.S. maneuvers?

[Al-Farnawani] The purpose is to serve the Jewish community in the United States during the elections, preserve Israeli security at this stage, and prepare for more maneuvers to protect U.S. interests in the countries of the region. And I believe that such maneuvers will achieve nothing.

[Bakri] The sons of the Palestinian people residing in Egypt are suffering numerous difficulties. In your capacity as former head of Palestinian affairs, how do you view this problem?

[Al-Farnawani] During my 7 years of service at the Palestine Department, I encountered nothing from the Palestinian brothers but every appreciation and respect for Egypt. They experience our difficulties as we experience theirs. We have a common destiny. During the past period, it was evident that a change occurred as a result of the Palestinian rejection of Camp David, thus causing confusion between the political stand and the residence of the Palestinian brothers in Egypt. This was reflected in the need for Egypt's support for the Palestinian brothers—a policy I have pursued for many years. It is supposed that whatever the political differences, such differences should not be moved to the level of the average people or small departments, in order not to create more difficulties for the Palestinian brothers, whether in their studies, residence, work, or trade registration, and so on.

And via the Palestinian Affairs Committee, which I had the honor of chairing, we submitted numerous proposals and recommendations to end such measures and work immediately to return matters to normal. In truth, there is propaganda about the Palestinians being the richest community here. This is wrong. Even if some are, the majority of them in Egypt are merely employees living in common areas and leading a difficult life. And if there are rich ones, let us impose taxes on them, since they take nothing away from anyone or exploit anyone. Taking some measures against the Palestinians raises an important question: Where will they go? The land is occupied. And this prompts us not to place obstacles in their way, since this is not in Egypt's interest. In fact, it is against Egypt's interest. We must dot the i's and cross the t's, and then make a move accordingly.

Paper Shows 'Contempt' for Algerian 'Ignorance'

JN2806071488 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 27 Jun 88 p 7

[Editorial: "Ignorance"]

[Text] Ignorance usually causes strong contempt. But if it is confined to mediocre individuals, one might find

excuses for them. They might be disregarded or taken patiently, even if they get carried away or become provocative.

If, on the other hand, ignorance is shown by a state or a regime, or by an official news medium affiliated with the state or the regime, and the ignorance is accompanied by slanders and swears, then such an ignorance does not only cause strong contempt, but also strong ridicule. Through such ignorance, these parties not only expose themselves, they also defame their regime, foolishly thinking that they are doing well.

An Algerian newspaper that respects neither itself, nor its media, nor its people and country, publishes an article that, to say the least, is banal and contemptible, coming out of souls full of black rancor, and containing all sorts of slander, degeneration, and ignominy. The paper describes Egypt as "nothing but a geographical point in the middle of the African Continent, which has no significance or role." This is without even knowing that this insolent statement not only hurts the honor and dignity of the man in the Algerian street, but also that of the small boy. It also insults their knowledge of the established facts in their country and around them.

Egypt has no need to prove its value to anyone, or to remind anyone of its existence, or explain its role. Egypt's value is established and readily recalled to mind. History and the facts stand witness to its role and show that this is not something that Egypt has made up or invented. It is also embedded in the minds of the Algerian people themselves. Egypt supported the Algerian people, contributed to their liberation, and fought for their rights when French colonialism boasted that Algeria was part of the motherland and would remain so forever.

Egypt has given a great deal and continues to do so. It has given of its funds, resources, and sweat for the fraternal African countries, without regarding this as a favor. It has also made its capital headquarters for the strugglers and those among the sons of these countries who were exiled. Egypt has also graduated generations that assumed leadership in these countries, worked in every field to improve the conditions of their peoples, politically, socially, and economically, and adopted their causes at all forums. Egypt supported their unity, contributed to settling their conflicts, and received and hosted tens of their delegations, presidents, and ministers to hold bilateral or other talks. The current Cairo conference stands witness to this.

Egypt has no need to remind anyone of its leading African role. All fair, wise, and enlightened people are always expressing their gratitude for this role and their loyalty. However, biased persons, demagogues, and defamers will not be able to usurp a position for themselves, even among their own citizens, with their clumsy claims, blind jealousy, cheap charlatanism, and spiteful hatred.

Syrian 'Plot' Against Palestinians Berated

NC2806153088 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1140 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "The Plot To Destroy the Palestinian Issue Is a Primary Syrian Goal"]

[Text] What the Syrian regime is doing in Lebanon against the PLO's forces has gone beyond all bounds, and no one can imagine that what is going on is truly possible. All the Syrian positions in Lebanon are being used by a dissident Palestinian group; that is, an agent group of the Syrian regime, to strike at the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila camps with all types of rockets and artillery, as if the goal of annihilating the PLO forces is a passport to paradise.

The background to this story is that Hafiz al-Asad vowed to discipline and liquidate Yasir 'Arafat because he dared declare Palestinian decisionmaking independent from Syrian influence. Since then, the Syrian regime has done nothing other than to seek to liquidate the PLO's leadership, its forces, and its very existence, even though reaching this holy goal could also mean the Golan Heights will remain under Israeli occupation forever.

Since the time Hafiz al-Asad vowed to liquidate Yasir 'Arafat and crush his forces, the Syrian conspiracy has continued, becoming at times even more violent and spiteful against the PLO and Yasir 'Arafat. The Syrian regime created a malicious Palestinian group under Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], and has used it as a cat's-paw to carry out its criminal plot against the PLO. The Palestinian camps have suffered from the fierce Syrian aggression, once under the Shi'ite Amal Movement, and at other times under agent Abu Musa. We believe that the world has not forgotten the losses in life and the destruction which the Palestinian resistance sustained at the hands of the Amal Movement. The suffering reached such a point that a request from the besieged people in the camps asking for permission to eat human flesh to save their lives was sanctioned.

The Abu Musa forces have been carrying out a destructive operation against the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps for approximately 1 month now, with full support from the Syrian forces. These forces, which are Palestinian only in name and are Syrian in malice and spite, want to annihilate the people of the two camps to complete what the Shi'ite Amal Movement began months ago. It is strange that the Syrian regime, which provides equipment and weapons to destroy the PLO forces, knows no shame and shares with the Israeli occupation forces in crushing the sons of the Palestinian people. It is as if this regime wants to say to the world that the extermination of the Palestinian people has become necessary for Syrian-Israeli security, because the existence of this people in this part of the Middle East is a source of dissatisfaction.

What can the Arabs say about the repressive measures? Should we tell the world that the Israeli rubber bullets are more dangerous to the Palestinian people than the Syrian rockets landing in Palestinian camps? The Syrian regime, which is backed by the dissident Abu Musa forces in its destruction of the Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila camps, provides ample opportunity for anyone seeking to exonerate the Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. In the face of this painful reality, we can understand why the Syrian regime does not want to join the peace movement to settle the Middle East crisis. This regime does not want peace because it plans to crush the Palestinian people to exploit the Palestinian issue according to its own plots and aims. All the Arabs must realize this because the conspiracy is even far more dangerous than this. The Syrian regime, which collaborates with Iran in order to destroy Iraq, will have no qualms about destroying the Palestinian issue.

Libya

Soviets Reportedly Urge End to Rift With Chad

LD2806171788 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1422 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, June 28 (TANJUG)—Libya and Chad will soon establish diplomatic relations after many years of adversity and war. The Yugoslav news agency TANJUG has learned that the Libyan leadership is currently preparing proposals for renewing relations with Chad as soon as possible. Tripoli's stance is that the first stage of renewing diplomatic relations should not focus on the controversial issues, such as the fate of the Aozou region, so as to make space for normalizing the relations between the two countries.

The Libyan foreign minister is to leave for Gabon in early July in order to talk with his Chad counterpart about renewing diplomatic ties.

The well-informed sources in Tripoli have disclosed an interesting fact that the Soviet leadership recently conveyed a message to Col. al-Qadhdhafi in which Moscow emphasized that the only way to resolve the Chad drama were the acknowledgement of the Chad regime and direct political talks with Ndjamena.

Libyan well-informed sources note, however, that the two sides did not have to "excessively convince each other" on the question since Col al-Qadhdhafi has firmly decided to carry out his peace initiative in Chad, which above all means the acknowledgement of Hissein Habre's regime, despite the difficulties which will inevitably arise in the negotiations process.

Aim of Egyptian Air Defense System Questioned

LD2806175888 Tripoli JANA in English 1646 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Egyptian Government's newspaper "AL-JUMHURIYAH" published a statement by a military official of the Egyptian regime in which he said that Egypt has completed an air defence system and has become ready to deter any aggressor thinking of an assault against Egypt.

The Arab affairs editor commented on that saying:

First: The strengthening of the defence capability of the Egyptian Arab Army against the enemy of Egypt and the Arab nation is a thing we take pride in and continue to call for. But the question here is: What enemy is that whom the Egyptian Army's weapons are developed for? If it were the enemy of Egypt and the Arab nation, which killed its sons and those of Egypt, occupied its land, wanders about inside Egypt, its flags fly in its sky and the normalisation of relations with it is going ahead at full speed following the signing of the treacherous David Stable accords which ended the state of war with it. [sentence as received]

Second: The consolidation of the military capability of the Egyptian Arab Army, if it were to bring back awareness of the real enemy of the Egyptian Arab people and the Arab nation—the Zionist enemy—and if it were to constitute a trend to sever the relations of the Egyptian regime with this enemy and to scrap the David Stable accords, then we will be the first supporters of the brotherly Egyptian Army and the enhancement of its capabilities in defence of the Arab nation and liberate its land from the Zionist occupiers.

Arabs Urged To Reject Those Who Visit Israel

LD2706192388 Tripoli JANA in English 1744 GMT 27 Jun 88

Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—JANA's Arab affairs editor called on the Arab countries to reject receiving any international official or figure visiting the Zionist enemy on account of the nationalist standing and Arab causes on top of which the Palestine issue.

In a commentary on the visit "Sosuke Uno" the Japanese foreign minister paid to the Zionist enemy and some Arab countries, the editor said: "Such visits must be stopped otherwise they become a phenomenon as though "Tel Al Rabie" had become an Arab capital or as though it is a capital the Arabs acknowledged its Zionism".

He asserted: "The most basic nationalist interest and the belief in the Arab cause make it an obligation to Arab countries not to receive in their capitals any figure that visits the Zionist enemy including media personalities and journalists unless their motives for such visits are to witness on the crimes of the Zionist occupiers and expose them to the world".

The editor indicated that receiving any official who visits the Zionists is a standing and not a casual news. "Any under-estimation of such stance and its consequences on the Arab cause had led to the loss of such cause and in the end caused the coolness of world standing in dealing with it".

Cypriot Minister Arrives for Visit 24 Jun

LD2506102588 Tripoli JANA in English 0908 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The minister of commerce, industry, and tourism in Cyprus [title as received] and the delegation in his company arrived yesterday in Tripoli on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

The Cypriot minister told the correspondent of JANA "I would like to express my pleasure and happiness to visit Great Jamahiriyah. I am carrying a letter for the leader of the revolution from his brother Yeoryios Vasiliou, the president of the Republic of Cyprus" and the minister added "my visit to Great Jamahiriyah comes to meet with the Libyans to foster and develop the existing friendly and fraternal relations between the two friendly peoples."

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD2606212088 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received the minister of trade, industry, and tourism [title as received] in Cyprus, Takis Nemitsas, who handed the leader a message from the president of the Republic of Cyprus, Yeoryios Vasiliou. During this meeting the leader pointed to the historic relations between the Arab and Cypriot peoples, explaining that the Arab citizen could not believe an embassy of the Zionist enemy existed in Cyprus, when he heard about the explosion that took place near the Zionist embassy and which resulted in the loss of innocent Cypriot lives and property as the price for the embassy's existence.

The leader said that Cyprus has to consider the Arab presence, stretching between the Turkish borders and the Atlantic Ocean and along the southern coast of the Mediterranean, which covers more than 10,000 km, only a small portion of which is occupied by the Zionists.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Sicilian Leader

LD2606105788 Tripoli JANA in English 0831 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution has received Rino Nicolosi, the head of the local government in Sicily, and the delegation in his company who are on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

The head of the local government in Sicily lauded, during this meeting, the prominent role being played by the leader of the revolution and the people of Great Jamahiriyah in support of freedom and the cause of liberty the world over...[ellipsis as received] He expressed his appreciation of the leader of the revolution as a world revolutionary personality who took the Libyan Arab people to the fold of advanced peoples and enabled Great Jamahiriyah to fulfill an important role in the international arena and social transformations.

He hailed the direct popular democracy applied by the Libyan Arab people through its people's congresses and committees on the land of the first jamahiriyah in history enabling the people of Great Jamahiriyah to take over power and resources.

The head of the local government in the Province of Sicily asserted the importance of the depth of and consolidation of cooperation between the peoples of Great Jamahiriyah and Sicily in particular and the people of Italy in general so as to attain peace and security in the Mediterranean.

Sicilian Leader Departs

LD2606195888 Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Rino Nicolsi, the head of the local governemnt of Sicily, and the delegation in his company left Tripoli this evening after a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

North Korean Official Arrives for Visit 26 Jun

LD2606193388 Tripoli JANA in English 1816 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 26, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Yi Yung-hi, the deputy chairman of the information committee [title as received] in the Democratic Republic of Korea, and the delegation in his company arrived, in Tripoli this morning on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

The deputy chairman of the information committee said, in a statement to the correspondent of JANA, that the visit comes within the framework of the consolidation of cooperation between the two countries and to see the colossal successes realized by the Libyan Arab people in various fields.

He expressed his country desire to developing and promoting relations for the mutual benefit of the two friendly peoples. [sentence as received]

He asserted the depth of friendship between the peoples of Great Jamahiriyah and the Korean Democratic Republic and cohesion of struggle which unites them.

Polish Official Arrives in Tripoli 26 Jun

LD2606191588 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, 26 June, JANA—Jan Majewski, undersecretary of state for foreign affairs and his accompanying delegation arrived today in Tripoli on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah. He expressed his satisfaction at the progress of cooperation and bilateral relations.

He told JANA following his arrival that bilateral relations have been and remain good. He said that this visit aims at exchanging views with friends in the Great Jamahiriyah and the study and discussion of the necessary steps for further coordination of cooperation between the two countries.

Bilateral Relations Discussed

LD2706153588 Tripoli JANA in English 1412 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Member of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison has met this morning Mr. Majewski, the Polish undersecretary of state for foreign affairs and his accompanying delegation who are currently on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

Present at this meeting were the secretary of the Libyan Arab People's Committee Bureau in Warsaw and the ambassador of Poland in Tripoli.

During this meeting the two sides have deliberated over the bilateral relations and over ways for promoting them, apart from the international relations of common interest.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Mufti of Jerusalem

LD2806094488 Tripoli JANA in English 0904 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Sayf [June] 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution has received the mufti of Al-Quds [Jerusalem] and president of Al-Quds University Askh al-'Alami [name as received] and his accompanying delegation.

The leader of the revolution has hailed this delegation and the holy war (jihad) waged by the Palestine people in their stone-pelting revolution led by the angry generation through the people's committees.

The mufti and his delegation have paid tribute to the leader of the revolution giving him a present representing a model of the noble Dome of the Rock.

The mufti addressing the leader says: "You are the leader of jihad deserving this present because you are the defender of the Palestinian question and the supporter to the revolution of the Palestinian Arab people against the Zionist occupiers."

The mufti has stressed to the leader the resolve of the Palestinian people to wage jihad saying that they believe in the words of Allah most eminent saying "praise to him who has made his servant make his nocturnal journey from the holy mosque (in Mecca) to Al-Aqsa Mosque (in Jerusalem) which we have blessed."

The mufti adds that they continue their struggle living on blessed food therein and armed with stones announcing to the world at large that we take this road until achieving victory on sustaining martyrdom for Palestine and the Arab nation under the leadership of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who is our leader. We, he continues, we follow the leader and will never bypass the principles he has announced.

Sudan

Government, SPLM Mediation Reportedly Succeeds

JN2906100188 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Khartoum, June 29 (SUNA)—The Egyptian mediation between the government and Sudan People's Liberation Movement "SPLM" has succeeded in convincing the SPLM to restore dialogue and negotiations, the daily AL-USBU reported today.

Quoting a high level diplomatic source the paper said the Egyptian leadership has exerted efforts that resulted in convincing rebel forces of Col. John Garang to work for ending the war in southern Sudan. The same daily said the American mediation with Garang and government efforts are continuing, adding that a U.S. envoy had recently visited Sudan and met with Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

Failing to give further information, the daily said the U.S. envoy had visited some neighbouring countries.

Prime Minister Receives Ethiopian Envoy 27 Jun

EA2806101988 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has received a verbal message from Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam on ways to improve and develop bilateral relations. The message was conveyed this morning when he received the Ethiopian ambassador to Sudan.

After the meeting, the ambassador stressed both countries' desire to establish peace on the basis of mutual agreement and negotiations. Each party is striving to resolve internal issues within the framework of good-neighborliness and mutual cooperation and to refrain from interfering in each other's internal affairs. He added that Mr Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi gave him a similar message for President Mengistu. The message deals with efforts to strengthen and improve Sudanese-Ethiopian relations.

Ministers Comment on SPLM Office in Kenya

JN2806112688 Khartoum SUNA in English 1022 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Khartoum, June, 28 SUNA—Sudan has not received a response from the Kenyan Government regarding Sudan's official request for closing the office of John Garang's movement in Nairobi, Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Husayn Abu Salih said said in a press statement to the daily AL-ITTIHAD published here today.

On the other hand Information Minister and Government Spokesman Abdallah Muhammad Ahmad affirmed that Kenya is involved in supporting Garang's movement.

It is to be recalled that Kenya has protested against Sudan's request and considered it as an intervention in its internal afairs.

Al-Nasri on Talks With Egyptian President

JN2806171588 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Jun (SUNA)—During his recent visit to Cairo, State Council Member Mirghani al-Nasri met with the Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. Al-Nasri said that he discussed a number of topics of interest to both countries with the president. He added that he discussed with him the Brotherhood Charter and the bilateral trade protocol.

He said that they discussed the importance of drawing up a joint plan to combat terrorism in the Nile Valley.

On the Sudanese initiative for a Libyan-Egyptian reconciliation, Al-Nasri said that he proposed hosting a summit between Mubarak and the Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to put the put the initiative into effect.

Al-Nasri also said that he discussed with the Egyptian president the situation in the Palestinian territories and ways to support the Palestinian uprising. He said he thanked the president for his efforts to mediate between Sudan and Ethiopia.

It should be noted that Al-Nasri returned to Khartoum last weekend after a private trip abroad during which he visited Egypt.

Libyan Plane Reportedly Refused Landing

JN2806105588 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Jun (SUNA)—The newspaper AL-AYYAM has said that the security authorities, under orders from the minister of interior, have refused to allow a Libyan military aircraft, carrying a number of Libyan personalities, to land at Khartoum International Airport. The authorities asked the aircraft's crew to return from whence they came because they had not obtained prior permission to land. The aircraft returned to Libya without landing at the airport.

SPLA Executes Former Official, 4 Others

EA2806103488 Omdurman National Unity Radio in English 1440 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Reliable sources say that Mr Dhol Acuil, together with four citizens from Bahr al-Ghazal Region, were executed by the SPLA at a village near Kodok [25 miles north of Malakal on the Nile] in the neighborhood of Kodok District in April 1988. Moses Yor was among those four who were killed with Dhol Acuil.

Mr Dhol Acuil was a former vice president of the High Executive Council for the Southern Region in 1982-1983. Dhol Acuil was sent by the SPLA headquarters to organize the SPLA in Bahr al-Ghazal while Lam Akol was instructed by John Garang to kill him before reaching Bahr al-Ghazal. It is worth mentioning that Dhol Acuil went to America in exile in 1986 after quarrelling with John Garang over $3 million misappropriated.

Bahrain

U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy Arrives in Manama

JN2806194788 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1925 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Manama, 28 Jun (WAKH)— Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, arrived in Manama tonight from Kuwait. He is paying a 2-day official visit to Bahrain within his tour of a number of countries in the region. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Court Sentences Man to Prison in Sabotage Case

LD2806150088 Kuwait KUNA in English 0843 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Kuwait, June 28 (KUNA)— The State Security Court today sentenced Ibrahim 'Abbas Zaynal, a Kuwaiti national, to 10 years rigorous imprisonment and dismissal from service after convicting him of sabotage and planning assassinations.

In an open session here today, the court withheld punishment of defendant Sulayman 'Abbas Zaynal for charges of destroying buildings and public utilities by way of using explosives to kill staff working therein.

However, the court ordered his dismissal from service and recommended his released on a KD [Kuwaiti dinars] 3,000-bail and personal pledge of good conduct for two years. The accused was acquitted of other charges levelled against him.

A third defendant, Muhammad Ibrahim 'Abbas was ordered under parole by the court for a term of one year.

The court, sitting under its president Justice Abdul Hai al-Bannai, also acquitted defendants Hasan Ibrahim Muhammad Husayn and Ahmad Hasan Khamis, at large, of charges levelled against them.

The State Security Court started hearing the case of the five defendants by an open session present June 4.

They were charged of collusion to murder some staffers of the Public Administration for State Security, destruction of buildings and utilities by explosives to kill employees therein and the use of force and violence against officers of the Central Prison.

The court have since held several closed-door sessions at the request of the prosecution to maintain public order and ensure justice.

Deal Signed With Egypt for 'Sophisticated Weapons'

JN2806182888 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 27 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] Kuwait and Egypt have signed an arms deal for the supply of "sophisticated weapons," to Kuwait, a Defence Ministry statement said yesterday.

The statement did not provide details of the deal, but diplomatic sources said it involved the sale of about 100 Egyptian-built armoured personnel carriers (APCs) and an integrated air defence system.

The statement said the agreement was signed by Kuwait's Defence Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad and Brig. Ahmad 'Awad Salih on behalf of the Egptian Defence Ministry.

The air defence system, called the Amun, is intended to help stop Iranian missiles such as the ones that slammed into Kuwaiti oil installations last year in retaliation for Kuwait's support for Iraq, diplomats said.

The Amun relies heavily on Swiss engineering and Italian hardware and consists of a radar system, two 35mm guns and two anti-aircraft missile launchers, military sources said.

The Egyptians say it complements Kuwait's existing air defences, which consist of Soviet-made SAM-7 and US-made Hawk missiles, the sources said.

Training of Kuwaiti armed forces personnel was part of the deal, they added, but there would be no substantial increase in the 50 or so Egyptian military advisers already in Kuwait.

The sources said Kuwait's purchase of the Fahd APC did not rule out another order for more advanced models from the Soviet Union or Britain. Kuwait has been considering Britain's Warrior and the Soviet BMP2.

Egyptian-made tanks, armoured vehicles, radar systems, and anti-aircraft and anti-tank missiles were displayed at a recent exhibition in Kuwwait and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah was then reported to be interested in acquiring some of the equipment.

Egypt had been trying to market its military equipment in the Gulf since the region's states restored diplomatic relations with Cairo after an Arab summit meeting in Amman last november.

Ties were ruptured when Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Egyptian leaders, including President Husni Mubarak and Defence Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah visited Kuwait after relations were resumed and expressed readiness to supply the Gulf states with weapons for self-defence.

The deal is Egypt's biggest sale yet to an Arab Gulf state other than Iraq and gives it a foothold in one of the world's most lucrative arms markets.

Egypt has had military advisers in Kuwait since the 1960s.

Kuwait is in the midst of a major arms buying spree. A request for 40 American F/A-18 fighter-bombers and 660 missiles worth a total of $1.9 billion is now under review by the U.S. Congress.

Oman

Sudanese Defense Minister Makes Statement, Leaves

JN2806142088 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Sudanese Defense Minister 'Abd al-Majid Hamid left the country today after a 2-day official visit to the Sultanate. In a statement to ONA [OMANI NEWS AGENCY] before leaving, he said that during his visit he conveyed a message to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id from Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. The message was handed to Sayf ibn Hamad ibn Sa'ud, chief of the Sultanate Court.

He added that during the visit, he met with Al-Mutasim ibn Hamud Al Bu Sa'idi, minister of state for defense affairs, for talks on bilateral relations and ways to promote them in the various areas. During the meeting, they also reviewed the current Arab situation and a number of issues of common interest. He was seen off by Al-Mutasim ibn Hamud Al Bu Sa'idi, minister of state for defense affairs.

PDRY

Defense Minister Receives PLO Official

EA2806212888 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Brother Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, member of the Political Bureau and defence minister, met at his office this afternoon with Brother 'Abbas Zaki, member of the Revolutionary Council of the Palestinian Fatah Movement and PLO officer for external relations. At the meeting they reviewed the situation in the Palestinian arena. Brother 'Abbas Zaki presented a detailed exposition on the courgeous uprising by the sons of our Palestinian people in the occupied territory.

For his part Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad reiterated our party's and people's trust in the ability of the Palestinian people to continue their struggle against the settler occupation by the Zionist enemy and to achieve all their legitimate goals under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. The brother defense minister also reiterated democratic Yemen's support for the heroic struggle waged by the Palestinian people. He stressed it will continue to provide all forms of possible support and assistance.

Col Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad expressed democratic Yemen's condemnation of and protest against the aggressive and oppressive actions and practices of the Zionist military against the Palestinian people, who are rising up against the occupation and marching under the leadership of the PLO toward all the objectives of their immortal revolution.

Present at the meeting was Brother Muhammad Abu al-Jad, deputy PLO representative in Aden.

Yemen Arab Republic

Standing Committee Secretariat Cables CPSU CC

JN2906065888 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] The Secretariat of the Standing Committee of the General People's Congress has sent a cable to the Secretariat of the CPSU Central Committee on the occasion of holding the CPSU congress.

The cable says: As we follow up the convening of the CPSU congress with great interest, we would like to express to you our deep appreciation and interest in what is being achieved in the friendly Soviet Union through accelerating scientific steps toward restructuring in light of the resolutions of the Central Committee and the 27th Congress of the CPSU.

The cable adds: On the occasion of holding the CPSU congress, we would like to express to you our deep optimism and hope that the congress will succeed in achieving further progress and prosperity for the Soviet People. We also hope it will yield positive results to reinforce the march of world security and peace, take steps to limit the proliferation of nuclear weapons and eliminate hotbeds of tension.

Furthermore, we hope the congress will support the struggle of the peace-loving peoples and back the just national causes, foremost of which is the cause of the Palestinian Arab people, who are struggling to regain their inalienable and legitimate right to establish their independent state on their national soil under the PLO. We also express our deep appreciation for the results of the Moscow summit, which constituted an important event in international relations in general and Soviet-U.S. relations in particular.

President Gives Speech, Discusses Majnun Battle

JN2806190088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 28 Jun (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has stated that Iraq hopes that the 8th year of the war will be the last if the Iranian rulers listen to some of the subordinates who surround them. He explained this by saying that the minds of the Iranian rulers are empty and they have no sound logic. If they listen to the Iranian officials who are their subordinates, they will perhaps be guided toward peace by the logic their subordinates still have.

In a speech delivered at a ceremony during which he awarded several Iraqi Air Force pilots with medals of valor, President Saddam Husayn said that his deductions are based on a strategic approach and logical calculations, and that he is certain about this on the basis of information he has from within Iran, the battlefronts from Al-Faw to the Majnun Islands, as well as the heroic feats of the fighters of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in Mehran.

The president affirmed that the Iranian people do not want to fight and that the road to dignity is open to them because Iraq has no designs on Iranian territory and does not wish Iran any evil. He stressed that the Iranian rulers must become convinced that their people do not want war and that the day will come when the Iranian rulers will not find a single person to fight for them. He affirmed that such a day is not far.

President Saddam Husayn noted that Iraq now has more than 50 divisions and is not scared by the vociferations of the Iranian rulers. He affirmed that the courage of Iraqis has become a national one.

President Saddam Husayn said that the Presidential Guard force stormed the enemy defenses in Majnun in boats, stepped down from the boats, and fought the enemy in its defensive positions, while columns from the III Army Corps penetrated deep inside Iranian territory in the nearby perimeters. He added that these columns had also crossed a water barrier. He added that the infantrymen stormed the area and established a bridgehead there, encircling enemy defenses, capturing large numbers of enemy troops, and destroying enemy defenses. They also prevented the enemy from sending reinforcements to t' Majnun Islands through the dam that links the islands to the Iranian mainland.

President Saddam Husayn said that in a matter of 8 hours, the III Army Corps units forged their way to some 30 km inside Iranian territory. He described this as one of the new traits demonstrating the high level of awareness and faith that the Iraqi Armed Forces now enjoy. He stressed that the Iranian rulers must comprehend this trait because the Iraqis are capable of wiping out the enemy inside its territory in the service of peace and to regain the national territories.

President Saddam Husayn said that the III Army Corps units withdrew from Iranian territory following the completion of their mission and returned to the homeland. He said that not a single man from the Presidential Guard force proceeded on foot. They were either in amphibious personnel carriers, which stormed enemy positions from the water to the dam, or in boats, from which they disembarked near the enemy defensive positions and engaged the enemy in battle.

President Saddam Husayn ridiculed some claims that the Iranians were taken by surprise in the Al-Faw offensive. He said they fought there with three divisions. He wondered whether the Iranians had also been taken by surprise at Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh]. He added that all the Iraqis had been aware that the next offensive would be against the Majnun Islands.

President Saddam Husayn said that the Americans used all means to inform the Iranians of the existence of Iraqi troop concentrations. He indicated that they informed the Iranians about the number, configurations, and movements of these troops, adding that the Americans provided the Iranians with information they had obtained from satellites. He added that THE WASHINGTON POST quoted intelligence sources as saying that the next action would be against Majnun. This report was carried by all international news agencies. He went on to say that the Iranians made their defensive preparations and brought in reinforcements, which were placed in front of the III Army Corps.

The president added that THE WASHINGTON POST also reported that the Iraqis would penetrate up to 30 km into Iranian territory, and we did just that; that is, we penetrated up to 30 km deep inside Iranian territory.

He said their calculations were based on the types of the troop masses, on how they were deployed, and also on the nature of the terrain. He said that the Iraqi penetration in 8 hours to a depth of 30 km means that the peoples of Iran do not want war.

His excellency the president warned Iranian rulers that what awaits them will be more disastrous for them and that their position will deteriorate. He said: If they want to save themselves, they have only one option which is to accept peace. He added that Iraq would not be pleased if the war continues until Iran completely deteriorates, as this is not one of Iraq's objectives. However, he added, we might have to pursue such an objective to realize peace.

Iraq's objective, the president said, is to bring about peace and a state of affairs in which each of us can live freely and secure in his own territory and in which each of us will also be a positive factor in the region's overall security.

The Iranians, the president added, should not attempt to threaten Dubayy and the UAE or fire a missile on Kuwait or intimidate Saudi Arabia, because these are Arab countries and Iraq's brothers and their security is part of that of Iraq and the Arab nation. He stressed that the Iranians have to respect the Arabs and themselves as well. The president went on to say that if they do so, Iraq will respect them.

His excellency the president said that the Iranians, over months and years, have been saying that if the Gulf states and the rulers of the Gulf states repent, they will forgive them. He affirmed that if Iraq were not in a state of war, it would at this hour and moment dispatch armies to these Arab countries to curse the Iranians, because of their voicing such statements about independent Arab states that have flags. He warned that such talk is no longer acceptable. Repentant people beseech only God to grant them forgiveness, he added. He went on to say that the one who places himself above people will be heading toward the abyss.

The president said that the Iranians must respect all the Arabs from the farthest Maghreb to the farthest Arab East and added: They must respect the Iraqis and Iraqi rights. Then, we will respect them as neighbors minding their own business while allowing us to mind our own business. He stressed that without this, the Iranians will reach a status of imbalance.

His excellency the president described the appointment of Rafsanjani as commander in chief or deputy commander in chief of the Iranian Armed Forces [as received] as an acrobatic ploy and as an attempt to withdraw Khomeyni from the arena as a defeated commander in chief. He added that the issue is not a technical one despite the experience that can be involved here.

He went on to say: The issue involved is basically the confused and unsound intellectual doctrine being pursued. They seek to build an empire at the expense of the Arabs and people, and this is where the disorder lies. The Iranians were late in discovering this after 8 years of war. His excellency the president also praised the Iraqi pilots for their courage and the distinguished role that they have been playing. [passage omitted]

President Chairs RCC-Ba'th Party Meeting

JN2506211588 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] President Leader Saddam Husayn has chaired a joint RCC-Ba'th Party Regional Command meeting. During the meeting, they reviewed the splendid victories achieved by our brave Armed Forces today through restoring our dear national territory in the northern and southern Majnun Islands in the Hawr al-Hawizah. This territory is of great strategic importance in the course of our just struggle against the forces of tyranny and aggression.

After it occupied this territory in 1984, the covetous and rancorous Iranian enemy did not conceal its evil ambitions regarding this important strategic area. Moreover, the Iranian arrangements and measures in this area, as well as the huge sums spent on it in the past few years, undoubtedly pointed to the Iranian enemy's intentions to retain this area and exploit its large oil reserves. Hence, the hopes and plans of the rancorous, aggressive Khomeyniite regime have failed and its grave defeats have come in succession since the glorious battle of liberating Al-Faw, including the victorious battle of Al-Shalamjah [Shalamcheh].

The battle of Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah Thaniyatan [We Relied on God Once Again] adds new pride to the pride of the Iraqis. They deserve this pride because they call for right and peace. On the contrary, the Khomeyniite regime deserves the defeats inflicted on it because it is a rancorous, covetous, and criminal regime that insists on evil, aggression, and destruction.

The RCC and the Regional Command proudly greeted the achievements and heroic deeds of the Presidential Guard force and the III Army Corps, which showed in this victorious battle the highest level of courage and great military efficiency in confronting large enemy forces. The enemy forces set up their positions several years ago and were expecting an offensive after known international circles leaked, through various means, including news media, reports, and information on our troop concentrations in the area.

The RCC and the Regional Command affirmed that this splendid success realized by our brave forces is another sure step on the road to a lasting peace in which Iraq deeply believes. Iraq affirmed its sincere commitment to peace throughout the war. This success is also a new defeat to the course of aggression, expansion, and evil on which the Iranian regime has insisted.

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities

Hamadan Overflight Denied

JN2606184688 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1822 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jun (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that Iraqi aircraft flew over Hamadan today.

In a statement to INA tonight the spokesman said: The Iranian media's claim is groundless as our aircraft did not carry out any missions within Iranian territory today.

Communique No 3,235

JN2806180488 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1658 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Communique No 3,235 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 28 June]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The combat activities by our triumphant Armed Forces last night and today were as follows:

1. The planes of our heroic Air Force carried out 116 combat missions, inflicting significant losses, in scoundrels, weapons, and equipment on the aggressors. Having flown this number of missions, all of our planes returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

2. The courageous knights of the helicopter gunships today flew 103 combat sorties, inflicting further losses on the enemy in personnel, vehicles, supplies, and equipment. They then returned safely to base with their helicopter gunships, God be praised.

3. Two valiant forces from our formations in the I Army Corps northern sector raided the enemy positions in front of them and managed to kill seven scoundrels, destroy enemy positions and one medium machinegun, seize another medium machinegun, and blow up one ammunition dump. The two forces returned safely to base. Elsewhere in the same sector, four enemy personnel were killed and one ammunition dump was blown up.

4. Four positions of various types and one machinegun were destroyed and one enemy vehicle was burned and destroyed in the II Army Corps central sector. In addition, one scoundrel was killed and one gun emplacement and three observation posts were destroyed in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

5. One infantry position was destroyed and its occupants were killed or wounded and one ammunition dump was blown up in the VII Army Corps sector.

6. In an attempt by the Iranian regime to once again reignite the war of the cities, this criminal regime yesterday evening used long-range artillery to shell residential quarters in the hamlet of Qal'at Dizah. The enemy shelling martyred two civilians, including one child, and wounded seven others, including four children and two women. The enemy shelling also demolished a number of houses. May paradise be the dwelling place of our two martyrs and may swift recovery be the lot of our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 28 June 1988

Plane Downing Denied

JN2806192088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Jun (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian allegations on the downing of an Iraqi fighter plane in the northern sector today.

In a statement to INA today, the spokesman said that all of our planes that carried out their tasks returned safely to base.

Newspaper Criticizes UN Investigation Mission

JN2506110088 Baghdad INA in English 1030 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Baghdad, June 25, INA—An Iraqi paper has expressed deep regret over the hurried dealing of the U.N. Secretariat-General with claims and lies of the Iranian regime.

A leading article carried by AL-JUMHURIYAH paper here today said Secretariat-General of the UN acted in a rush when it decided to dispatch a mission to investigate claims made by Iran concerning the use by Iraq of chemical weapons.

This hurried course "has considerably helped the Iranian regime to resume the process of fraud and misleading," thus, hindering the Security Council's activities to implement Resolution 598, though more than eleven months elapsed since its adoption, the paper noted.

U.N. Secretary-General's decision to send the mission and Iran's declaration that it would not receive it should prompt all international bodies to be on their guard against lies of the Iranian regime and to draw sound conclusions on all aspects of the situation, the paper said.

The most important of conclusions that international organs ought to arrive at "is Iran's rejection to approve Resolution 598 and its attempts to go round this resolution by resorting to maneuvers, lies and circumventions," AL-JUMHURIYAH remarked.

Rabin Arrives in Washington on Visit 28 Jun

Meets Carlucci, Shultz

TA2806200788 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpts] The meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is beginning at this moment in Washington. Later, our correspondent in Washington has learned, the defense minister will meet with Michael Dukakis, the Democratic Party's presidential candidate, at his home in Boston. The White House will soon release an announcement on behalf of the President and vice president. Our correspondent Nisim Mish'al reports from Washington: [passage omitted]

The main working meeting took place at the Pentagon yesterday with Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci. The meeting between Rabin and Carlucci was marked by concern about the new situation created in the Middle East due to the introduction of surface-to-surface missiles and chemical warfare by the Arab countries. Frank Carlucci asked Rabin for details, and made it clear that the United States has no suitable answer to these missiles which have a range of hundreds of kilometers. During the more than 2-hour talk, the two focused on ways to find effective solutions to the missiles and the chemical warfare problem. This race, Carlucci told Rabin, troubles me no less than it does you, and we will have to challenge this dangerous development together.

[Begin Rabin recording] During our discussion of missiles, we began to talk about the Hetz missile project. There was already an agreement in principle on this 7 months ago, and I think this issue will be pushed forward. Surely there are additional subjects we will have to discuss together, such as how to reply to a threat the nature and scope of which we have not experienced in the past. [end recording]

After the meeting with Carlucci, Rabin rushed to the U.S. State Department to meet with George Shultz. Secretary Shultz received Rabin with mixed feelings. On the one hand he is a great friend of Israel, and on the other he is disappointed with the failure of his peace initiative. Shultz, who is also disappointed with the conduct of IDF forces in the territories, proposes an effective solution, in his opinion, to the danger of surface-to-surface missiles: the political process. In fact, the U.S. secretary of state said that every possible way to achieve peace in the Middle East should be sought following the elections, thus solving the problems of the uprising in the territories as well.

[Begin recording] [Rabin] There are different issues, particularly with regard to human rights and legal matters, that the United States views differently than we do.

[Mish'al] Have you heard criticism?

[Rabin] Sure. I heard views contrary to ours, but I do not think that this disrupts the security of our relations with the United States. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Comments on Talks With Reagan

TA2906052988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Excerpts] After yesterday's talks between President Reagan and Defense Minister Rabin, the White House issued a statement with some implied criticism of Israeli policy. More from Conni Lon in Washington:

[Begin Lon recording] The White House appeared to issue a blunt warning to Defense Minister Rabin. It did so in the form of a written statement issued at the end of the 15-minute meeting with President Reagan. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Despite the criticism, Defense Minister Rabin said afterwards that it had been agreed to maintain U.S. aid to Israel at its current level. On the White House steps, he was questioned by reporters about what the President had said about Israel's handling of the Palestinian uprising:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] I will not elaborate on what the President said. I will say that the issue was brought up in the talks. I explained the Israeli policy. I am not saying that everyone here is in agreement with our policy, but we are a free, independent state. When it comes to Israel's security and Israel's defense, we feel that we are free to act as it is needed to prevent any damage to our future and our security. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Rabin, did the President give you any assurances that the United States would try and persuade China not to sell ground-to-ground missiles to Syria?

[Rabin] I didn't discuss it with the President. I know that the American Government tries to influence all those who can ship this kind of weapons to the region not to do so. You have to bear in mind that the first ground-to-ground missiles for a range of about 3,000 km was shipped to one of the closest friends of the United States in the Middle East, to Saudi Arabia. No doubt I didn't find anyone here happy about it, as well as we are not happy about it. Therefore, to what extent the United States can influence China is beyond my capability to say. [end recording]

Rabin Visit Termed 'Success'

TA2906100588 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 Jun 88 p 2

[Editorial: "Compliments and Dangers"]

[Text] Even if the obvious beckoning signals toward Jewish voters are taken into consideration, the joint communique issued by President Reagan and Vice President Bush includes a series of compliments no Israeli politician has been accorded so far. Even then, there is no doubt that the defense minister's visit to the United States has been a success.

This should not come as a surprise. Even in the past, when Rabin was Israel's ambassador to Washington, he was well known for his ability to tell the Americans unpleasant truths without antagonizing them.

The most prominent achievement of the defense minister's recent visit was his success in acquainting his hosts with the gravity of the new danger hovering over Israel, that of the long-range missiles the Arab countries plan to purchase, as well as the chemical warheads they already possess.

Unfortunately, Rabin's hosts limited themselves to stating that the danger does exist and that it is grave. They could offer no solution—at least, not at this stage.

Secretary Shultz was quick to seize the opportunity to state once again that there is no real protection against missiles and that the solution lies in accelerating the peace process. But his remarks missed the point.

The leading Arab state in the procurement of missiles and chemical weapons is Syria, and even Shultz admits that Syria is not part of the current peace process.

Shamir on Missile Threat, IDF Criticism, Egypt

TA2906052788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that Israel must and does have ready answers to the missile problem, but that these have to be improved. Mr Shamir spoke with our military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe after a meeting of the Intelligence Corps in the Caesaria amphitheater.

[Begin recording] [Menashe] The arms race in the Middle East occupies our minds, says Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. This issue has become one of the most prominent threats, and we must prepare answers enabling us to confront it.

[Shamir] This is not the first time we have heard of this threat. It is true that it has acquired larger dimensions with the recent development of this weapon by several Arab states. Naturally, it obliges us to be more alert and to increase our efforts to [words indistinct] this threat. We are taking action in this field and we have some answers, but these must be improved.

[Menashe] As for the territories, the prime minister says that the IDF is doing everything possible to put an end to the disturbances and riots.

[Shamir] Well, no one can say exactly when this phenomenon will come to an end. If we are to judge by the past, there have been ups and downs. But there is no doubt that this violent hostility must come to an end, and we will see to it that it does.

[Menashe] There is no connection between political solutions and the intifada [uprising].

[Shamir] When they speak of political solutions, they surely mean a solution of the entire conflict between us and the Arab world. It is clear to all of us, however, that this violence directed at us must stop, and we will see to it.

[Menashe] Regarding the criticism recently leveled at the IDF, the prime minister says: I would not say the criticism is very harsh.

[Shamir] The IDF is not taboo; it can be subject to criticism. My position on this, however, is known. The methods of the IDF should not become a matter for interpartisan confrontations. Every minister can express his views, but these should not become the views representing a political bloc.

[Menashe] On another issue, the prime minister says that relations with Egypt should be improved, and that this situation has prevailed since the peace agreement was signed. A Jewish friend and leader from Australia who had visited here and was leaving for a meeting with Egyptian President Mubarak asked if the foreign minister and I wanted to convey greetings to him. I told this friend that I am interested in improving relations with Egypt, and that we must take action in this matter. [end recording]

IDF Denies Reported Activity in Lebanon

TA2906083488 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] An IDF spokesman said last night that the army had not carried out "any special activities" north of the security zone in southern Lebanon. The spokesman was reacting to news service reports that Israeli ground troops, backed by tanks and helicopter gunships, had clashed with pro-Iranian Islamic militants.

Lebanese police had reported earlier that an Israeli unit moved north of the security zone in the late afternoon towards hills overlooking the Shi'ite community of Libbaya, and exchanged automatic weapons fire with militamen from the pro-Iranian Hizballah movement.

According to reports, the IDF unit was later joined by tanks and combat helicopters that shelled Libbaya and three neighbouring villages. From their positions in the security zone, IDF artillery units also bombarded the four villages, ther reports said.

Peres Notes Jordan's 'Positive Role' on Terror

TA2906103988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres has told the Jewish Agency assembly here in Jerusalem that Jordan has been playing a positive role in preventing anti-Israel terror and in keeping the border quiet.

[Begin Peres recording] I am not aware that Jordan is paying for the intifada [uprising]. If Jordan would have money, they would pay to stop it, to the best of my knowledge. They are not particularly interested in it. The Jordanians are paying toward the administration on the West Bank. They are paying to the teachers, to the officials, and on the West Bank the officials are being paid by the two governments—by the Jordanian and the Israeli one—and may I say in their favor, they don't refuse either of the two. [laughter] They don't, on the contrary. May I also say, occasionally it's not too bad to say a nice word about a neighbor.

The Jordanians are doing a very good job in preventing terror to cross the Jordan River. The frontier between Jordan and ourselves is very secure, partly because of us but partly also because of them. And there are no Katyushas from, say, Al-'Aqabah to Elat, though the distance is very short. [end recording]

Shamir Asks FRG Legislators' Help With EEC

TA2906102888 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 29 Jun 88 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] "Scandal" was the word used by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to describe the European Parliament's refusal to ratify Israel's new agreement with the EEC. The prime minister, who met with a delegation of FRG Bundestag members led by Deputy Chairwoman Annemarie Renger, further said that "this is an intervention in Israel's internal affairs and an attempt to exert economic pressures for political goals." The prime minister requested the Bundestag members' intervention with the European Parliament, which is due to meet next week to discuss ratification again.

Japan Urged To Help More in Peace Efforts

TA2806192488 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Jun 88 pp 1, 8

[Editorial: "The Japanese Role and the Expected Hopes"]

[Text] Yesterday's visit by Japan's Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno to the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, the meetings he held in Jerusalem with a number of Palestinian figures, and the statements he made in the wake of these meetings represent a significant and positive evolution in the Japanese position. These statements affirm Japan's eagerness to provide political and economic support to the Palestinian people so they can attain their legitimate rights and realize their aims of achieving a just, durable, and comprehensive peace and establishing an independent Palestinian state on the soil of their homeland.

It is hoped that this stance will contribute to boosting efforts aimed at convening an international peace conference in accordance with the international pattern. Such a conference represents the only available opportunity for achieving a peaceful, just, and lasting settlement in the region.

What the Japanese minister heard from the residents in the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, where he witnessed the reality of their pain and suffering, and what he heard from the Palestinian personalities he met in Jerusalem represent a clear message to the Japanese minister calling for the acceleration of measures aimed at consolidating the pillars of peace in the region. These personalities stressed Japan's economic and political status, and urged Japan to assume a more active role in expediting the convocation of an international conference for peace in the region and in providing support for the Palestinians under occupation.

The significance of this visit is that it was undertaken a short time after the Japanese prime minister declared his country's willingness to assist in maintaining world peace and resolving regional conflicts. The Palestinian problem is considered one of the most important of these conflicts and most urgently requires a just and durable solution.

Though the Japanese minister did not openly criticize Israel's intransigence toward convening an international peace conference, he said that this conference is indispensable for the establishment of peace in the region and promised that his country would exert efforts toward this end.

During his meeting with Japan's foreign minister, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir tried to depict the Palestinian problem as one related to improving the residents' living conditions by constructing new buildings and giving financial aid. Shamir forgot that he was deceiving himself because the problem, in its historical roots and tragic extension, has gone beyond improving the residents' living conditions. The problem now centers on the demand for the Palestinian people's legitimate political rights. The international community has acknowledged this and has called for the achievement of these rights.

While expressing our appreciation for the Japanese position regarding the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, we look forward with hope and confidence to a more effective and stronger Japanese role in advancing the efforts aimed at establishing a just, durable, and comprehensive peace in this region. This must be achieved through the convocation of an international conference with full powers, attended by all parties to the conflict including the PLO, on equal footing with the other parties to the conflict. We believe that with its political and economic weight in the region, Japan is qualified to fulfill the role of consolidating the pillars of world peace and resolving regional conflicts.

Commentary Assails Uno's Visit

TA2906100088 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Jun 88 p 9

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "How Do You Say Chutzpah in Japanese?"]

[Text] I never expected Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno to commit hara-kiri during his visit to the Yad Vashem holocaust memorial to atone for the genocide carried out by his country in collaboration with its ally Germany during World War II. After all, Uno was only a little over 20 at the time, a tiny cog in the big war machine, merely carrying out orders like his Japanese peers. Like all the Germans. Neither did I think that during the first visit of a Japanese foreign minister to Israel, the land which provided refuge for the survivors of the holocaust, he would manage to slap us in the face seven times in 1 day.

To "counterbalance" his visit to Yad Vashem, he proceeded immediately to the Al-Duhayshah camp, where he became so emotional and wrought with pity that he promptly forked out $500,000 (which, incidentally, is not really all that generous a contribution). Without batting an eyelid, he declared that we must withdraw to the 1948 lines (Japan has never recognized the somewhat muted version as per Resolution 242) and allow the establishment of a PLO-led Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital. One would think that all our suffering here, brought on by the Arab world, is an illusion, that it never really happened. So? The Japanese are strong on amnesia and know more about oil than about morality.

He was deaf to all our requests for broader ties beyond cold, formal relations: He said no to direct air links, no to technological-economic cooperation, no to investment in the local industry, no to revocation of the Japanese capitulation to the Arab boycott, and no to an increase in imports from Israel—mainly of diamonds. He was not even prepared to intercede to curb the rising phenomenon of anti-Semitic literature in Japanese. Israel—which was the first country to establish diplomatic relations with Japan after the war, thereby cleansing the pariah—deserves nothing better, no doubt.

So why bother to visit us? Perhaps because the United States has begun to grumble about Japan. The Japanese, obviously under the influence of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion"—a bestseller in Japan—believe that passage through Israel will smooth their way to the hearts of the Jewish magnates who, as everyone knows, rule America. I hope we never lift a finger to help them. Instead of Uno breaking his teeth trying to say "lehayim" [cheers] in Hebrew, Shim'on Peres would be well advised to learn how to say "chutzpah" in Japanese.

Rabin Orders End to Free Arab Medical Treatment

TA2906110088 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 29 Jun 88 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] As of 1 July, the Civilian Administration will cease financing the hospital expenses of residents of the territories in Israeli hospitals, except for emergency cases. This decision was recently made by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Our correspondent has learned that the decision was prompted mainly by financial considerations. Our correspondent notes that this is a revolutionary step, which may prove to be the defense minister's most important decision with regard to the intifada [uprising].

This may be the most significant step toward cutting residents of the territories off from Israel. For many years Israel had fought to induce the residents of the territories to seek medical treatment in Israel—despite the persistent objection voiced by Jordan and the PLO—on the assumption that this would improve the chances of coexistence. Now everything has changed.

Erez Meets With Palestinian Notables in Janin

TA2806151188 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Brigadier General Shay Erez, head of the Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria, met 20 notables from the township of Qabatiyah in Janin today. The notables brought up various issues for discussion, asking that the township be reconnected to the electricity grid and that export licenses and visits of Jordanian relatives be allowed.

Ways of reestablishing peace in the township were also discussed, in view of the incident in which one of the township's residents was hung for suspicion of collaborating with Israeli authorities.

Gen Erez promised that the requests will be considered seriously. Our correspondent 'Eran Ben-Porat notes that the meeting took place despite the commercial strike.

Arab Schoolgirls Detained Near U.S. Consulate

TA2906095488 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Dozens of Arab schoolgirls gathered near the U.S. Consulate in East Jerusalem this morning in protest against school closures. The gathering was illegal and the police dispersed the schoolgirls with tear gas. Some of the girls, who had incited others to join the gathering, were detained for questioning.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

General Strike Staged

TA2806201788 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpts] A general strike was staged in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza today. Most laborers did not go to work in Israel. Stone throwing incidents occurred in several places. Two youths were wounded in Nabulus when an IDF force dispersed rioters. Our correspondent Victor Nahmias reports:

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] The roads in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza were almost empty, with IDF motorized patrols clearly noticeable in the area. In Hebron, almost all laborers left for work in Israel despite the commercial strike there. This was reported this evening by the spokesman of the Civilian Administration. Those who did not go to work set up an improvised roadblock near the municipal building. [passage omitted] [end recording]

2 Nabulus Youths Wounded

TA2806175288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] In Nabulus today, 2 youths were wounded when soldiers dispersed rioters in the casbah. Masked youths rushed out from alleys and threw sticks and stones at the soldiers.

In the triangle near Baqa al-Gharbiyyah, shots were fired at a mobile mail van around noon. Nobody was hurt and no damage was caused.

'Failure' on Both Sides of 'Uprising' Analyzed

TA2806113088 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Jun 88 p 13

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "The Big Failure"]

[Text] The IDF generals who met last week to sum up the 6-month-long riots in the territories had no reason to be jolly. The intifada [uprising] may be under control, but has not been defeated. In contrast, had the leaders of the uprising in the territories held such a meeting, they would have had no reason to pop champagne corks either: Although it is still going on, the intifada has actually failed.

The uprising in the territories has failed to reach its objectives in four spheres:

1. Although it caused great confusion and nervousness, disrupted the routine of the good life, and inflicted some quite serious damage to Israel's international image, the leaders of the uprising miscalculated the surprising ability of Israelis to live with the troubles befalling them. After the initial shock and as months went by, Israelis got used to living with the intifada as if it were an ordinary natural disaster such as traffic accidents, the "Syrian threat," terrorist attacks, Katyushas, the yearly "1-month reserve duty," and so on and so forth.

2. The continuing uprising—including the commercial strikes, school closures, curfews, and administrative detentions—seriously hurt the inhabitants of the territories, even before Israel imposed real economic pressures on them and before it shed the inhibitions it still had with regard to the "handling" of the Arab population. I would not be wrong in assuming that the leaders of the intifada themselves realized they had reached red lines which, if crossed, would have provided Israeli radicals with an excuse to go berserk. Hence, the uprising lost some of its momentum and became a sort of routine. And as this routine continues and the riots become a regular event, Israel and the world at large will grow used to them.

3. Instead of encouraging moderate elements in Israel, the intifada spurred the radicals. Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin, who until 3 months ago believed that the continuation of the uprising until the elections would help Labor come to power, now think the exact opposite. Both now believe that the riots in the territories must be quelled, that "we should not give in to violence," and so on and so forth. Hence, those who thought that Israel would no longer be able to count on the mistakes of the Arabs have been proven wrong.

Not only has the intifada encouraged Israeli radicals, it has also unleashed the primitive instincts of those who sought peaceful coexistence with the Palestinians. The intifada serves the interests of the Likud and provides Shamir and his national camp with good arguments. The riots, particularly the deep hatred displayed by the Palestinian population toward the Jews, has hardened political Israel. It has illustrated the fact that the talk about "a territorial compromise" is not very realistic and that the situation really is as the Likud (and the PLO) describe it: all or nothing, them or us.

4. The biggest failure of the intifada is that it failed to exploit its momentum to open a political option for peace. Admittedly, it brought Shultz to Israel. That, however, led nowhere, particularly because it drove away, perhaps forever, the only partner who may have been acceptable to Israel: King Husayn. Many doubted that the king ever intended to plunge into the cold water of negotiations with Israel in any event, but now there are enough signs proving that the uprising in the territories had him scared to death. Stiff restrictions were imposed on the Jordanian press concerning reports about the territories, and not even one demonstration of solidarity with the inhabitants of the territories was allowed in Jordan.

The PLO, which still has trouble proving it sired the uprising, has been driven farther away from the remote possibility of ever arriving at a dialogue with Israel on the basis of a territorial compromise which currently is

the only national consensus in Israel. In fact, the intifada has deterred the Arab world from sticking its nose here and has strengthened the rejectionist camp without producing any local leadership capable of proposing the political option without which the entire uprising may have been to no avail.

Consequently, one morning we woke up and found that the cliche repeatedly uttered by the Likud leaders, that "there is nobody to talk to," was true. I will not say that we had no part in this situation, but we would be wrong to take all the blame. Had there been even one Arab leader who really wanted to arrive at a peace settlement with us (on the basis of a compromise), not only would he have been found, but he would also have made his way to us by force without resorting to U.S. mediation (as Al-Sadat did in 1977). No force in the world would have stopped him, and as was the case with Al-Sadat, he would have also found somebody to talk to here. The chances of arriving at a peace settlement are now dimmer than ever before, no less so thanks to the intifada.

Industrial Production Drop Attributed to Riots

TA2806140288 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Jun 88 p 12

[Report by Yonatan Sherman]

[Text] The decrease in industrial production in the first quarter of 1988 was caused mostly by the riots in the territories, according to a study carried out by the Industry and Trade Ministry's planning and economics center. The study, conducted by Tamar Ben-Yosef, director of the center, shows that 70 percent of the decrease can be attributed to the drop in sales in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and to the fact that employees residing in those areas did not show up for work.

Industrial production dropped 3.5 percent in the first quarter of 1988, of which 2.5 percent was caused by riots in the territories. Of this 2.5 percent, 1 percent was attributed to a reduction in business of firms manufacturing building materials. This industry was seriously affected by the drop in building activities in Israel due to the absence of workers. The other 1.5 percent decrease was attributed to a reduction in business of textile firms which sell part of their products in the territories, and to a reduction in business of plastics firms.

Another drop of 1 percent was caused by metallurgical and electronics firms having difficulties exporting their products, and had nothing to do with events in the territories.

There has been no significant change in the volume of business of industries producing perishable goods.

'Clandestine' Publications on 'Uprising' Reviewed

TA2906112388 Tel Aviv KOTERET RASHIT in Hebrew 29 Jun 88 p 10

[Report by Mikhal Sela']

[Text] Dozens of clandestine publications—leaflets, announcements, calls, and instructions—are distributed in the towns and villages involved in the intifada [uprising] daily. The series of numbered leaflets is best known, of course, and is considered semi-official. Other publications are also issued daily. Typewritten or processed on computers, they are usually distributed at night. In the mornings, children rush to bring them home to their parents, who either read them, memorize them, or very often destroy them at once.

Every organization issues its own leaflets: the Communist Party or the leftist organizations in general; the Islamic Jihad; and the Hamas [name as published], a religious organization affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood. Fatah, too, has issued its own circulars. Even if the leaflet is not clearly attributed, its style and vocabulary provide sufficient clues to determine whether it was written by the left or the right. Whatever the source, they all call on the Palestinians to close ranks and rally round the common cause. Other leaflets, signed by "the prisoners of war held captive in the Zionist jailhouses," urge their brethren on the outside to pursue the struggle. Others give instructions on how to make your own homemade dried fruits and vegetables or how to assemble a firebomb.

Children analyze the texts to find out which leaflets are planted by the authorities. The Military Government often disseminates signed leaflets telling the public that the uprising will boomerang and ultimately harm the instigators. Many of these leaflets are deliberately made to resemble actual intifada papers, while between the lines there are indications of the government's intention of driving a wedge between the various factions or otherwise stopping the revolt.

A particularly interesting publication, distributed in the streets and yet quite difficult to obtain, is an underground paper issued by the leftist organizations, probably by the Palestinian Communist Party.

It is called "The Intifada" and is published on behalf of the democratic national committees in the occupied lands. Its 8 pages are typed out on computer, and the banner on the front page reads: On the road to ending the conquest and the establishment of a Palestinian state in the national land. Each issue carries short articles analyzing the development of the intifada and providing instructions on how to organize the popular committees. Brief reports on clashes between local inhabitants and the army are also published.

"The intifada has changed Palestinian society. The differences of opinion between the various organizations have become a marginal issue. A new value system has been created." This was written in the issue dated the end of March. In an article on the economic situation, mathematical calculations are given to show how thousands of shekels can be saved every month: "If we cease buying milk or milk products from Tnuva [Israeli dairy conglomerate], we will save at least 5 million shekels a month. One million would be enough to pay the monthly salaries of laborers, on the basis of 30 shekels a day." "My brother, member of the neighborhood committee: Have you taken down the names of the ailing in your neighborhood? Why not do it at once?" reads the 17 April issue. "Start counting the water wells in your neighborhood. My brother, you who owns fallow land: Cooperate with your neighborhood committee to use your land! My brother the citizen: Conserve! Serve your guest only one glass of water, and do not be ashamed!"

A short item deals with the inhabitants' moral conduct: "We are in the limelight; everyone is looking at us through a magnifying glass. Every mistake, slight though it may be, will be noticed. We must not languish in hubris or show pride in our sons' heroism!" According to that article, moral rectitude begins with the most mundane things: observing road safety regulations, finding peaceful ways to resolve personal disputes, educating children not to throw stones at Arab cars, and being fair and honest in business.

Poll Shows Equal Strength for Left, Right

TA2406110788 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Jun 88 p 1

[Dahaf poll conducted by Dr Mina Tzemah]

[Text] A public opinion poll conducted this week shows a slight rise for the Likud and a minor drop for the Alignment. The poll shows that there is no change in the strength of either the left or the right, with each holding 60 Knesset seats.

The poll, conducted on 21 and 22 June, surveyed 815 interviewees.

It is worth noting that the poll did not include the Arab sector. Therefore, the results given for those parties whose main power derives from that sector must be viewed cautiously.

Question: What party would you have voted for had the elections taken place today? (results given in Knesset seats; May poll results provided in parentheses)

Alignment	42	(44)	Likud	40	(39)
MAPAM	3	(2)	Tehiya	6	(7)
Citizens Rights Movement	5	(4)	National Religious Party	5	(5)
Center Movement	3	(2)	SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim]	3	(4)
HADASH [Democratic Front for Peace and Equality]	2	(2)	Agudat Yisra'el	2	(2)
Tzomet	2	(2)	Kakh and Progressive List for Peace	7	(7)
Total	60		Total	60	

Knesset Defeats Kakh No-Confidence Motion

TA2906095988 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0930 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] A short while ago, the Knesset defeated a no-confidence motion submitted by Kakh. The motion, which was prompted by the manner in which the government deals with the security situation, was defeated by a majority of Knesset members present in the plenum.

In his address, Knesset Member Kahane called for the organization of an underground group if government actions do not suffice to protect citizens' lives.

MAPAM Elects First 5 Candidates for Knesset

TA2806202988 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpt] In Kibbutz Shefayim today, MAPAM's Central Committee elected their first five candidates for the next Knesset: Knesset Member [MK] Ya'ir Tzaban—first place; Hayim Oron of Kibbutz Lahav, Kibbutz Ha'artzi Movement secretary—second place; Husayn Faris, a school principal from 'Akko—third place; MK Amira Sartani of Kibbutz Merhavya—fourth place; and MK Gad Yatziv—fifth place. [passage omitted]

Release of UK Hostages Linked to U.S. Elections

NC2906081688 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 27 Jun 88 pp 8, 9

[Text] According to well-informed Islamic fundamentalist circles, the ongoing British-Iranian talks to free the British hostages held captive in Lebanon will lead to their release before the U.S. presidential elections are held. The same circles believe that the Iranian leadership, by delaying the release of the British hostages until the end of summer, seeks to influence the upcoming U.S. elections.

According to the same circles, the objective behind Iran's move in this direction is to embarrass the official U.S. position before the U.S. public.

As is known, the American, British, and French Governments had agreed to shelve the hostage issue and to refrain from negotiating their release. However, the Iranian initiative to hold talks with the FRG, and their success in freeing the FRG hostages in Lebanon, prompted France to breach the agreement and hold talks with Iran for the release of the French hostages in Lebanon. Accordingly, the French hostages were released in exchange for returning to Iran $1 billion in Iranian funds frozen in France, as well as another $1 billion in interest, considering that usury transactions with non-Muslims are not prohibited.

The success of the French deal with Iran opened the door for Britain, the second party to the aforesaid tripartite alliance against Iran, to yield. Britain has begun to normalize its relations with Iran, which will lead to the release of its hostages at some time. However, the Iranian policy of antagonizing the United States and provoking it in various spheres has led the Iranian leadership, according to the same fundamentalist source [as published], to set the timing of the release of the British hostages very close to the date of the U.S. elections, so as to put political and propaganda pressure on Washington.

It should be noted that Iran had a similar experience with the U.S. elections during the term of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter. At that time, it had stalled in releasing the hostages held in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The objective was Carter's downfall, because the hostages were released after a new U.S. President had been elected.

Further Reportage on Inter-Palestinian Fighting

Entry to Sidon Barred

NC2806110988 Paris AFP in English 1030 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Sidon, Lebanon, June 28 (AFP)—Sunni Moslem militiamen early Tuesday burned tires and parked military vehicles across a highway north of here, barring the entry to Sidon of Palestinian fighters who had earlier been evacuated from a Beirut refugee camp.

The situation in Sidon, 43 kilometers (27 miles) south of Beirut, "is already critical and cannot take the arrival of new Palestinian fighters," a source close to the Lebanese Popular Nasirite Organization (PNO) told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Militiamen from the mainly Sunni PNO, which controls this southern port city, earlier Tuesday intercepted two trucks carrying Fatah Palestinians loyal to Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasir 'Arafat four kilometers (2.5 miles) to the north.

PNO leader Mustafa Sa'd on Monday warned that he would "categorically refuse to receive" the Fatah militants, who were escorted toward Sidon by Syrian and Libyan troops after being driven out of the Shatila refugee camp by pro-Syrian Palestinian dissidents loyal to Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah].

The evacuation came after nearly two months of fierce fighting between Fatah loyalists and partisans of Abu Musa in the Fatah Provisional Command (FPC) that left 94 people dead, nearly 500 wounded and reduced the camp to rubble.

In Tunis, an influential PLO leader accused Syria of having worked out a deal with the United States designed to "disarm the Palestinians and expel them from Lebanon."

Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, charged that the forced evacuation from Shatila by Fatah militants was part of a plot to remove all Palestinians from Lebanon.

He said in a press statement that Syria was acting in league with Washington in order to determine the outcome of Lebanese presidential elections scheduled for next month. [passage omitted]

Yusuf al-Sharqawi, the Fatah commander in Shatila who sustained a serious hand wound in the fighting, charged here Tuesday that "Syrian artillery bombarded defenseless Palestinians people while remaining silent in the Golan Heights in the face of Israel.

"I think that after Shatila it will be the turn of other Palestinian camps in Lebanon."

Fatah retains control of another refugee camp in Beirut, Burj al-Barajinah, where a spokesman told AFP the Fatah convoy should return if Mr. Sa'd persists in his refusal to accept it.

But Shatila is now a virtual ghost town, according to Amne Jibril, an official of the Union of Palestinian Women who left the camp Monday.

"With our departure the life has gone out of Shatila and there are now but a few old people inside the compound," she said. [passage omitted]

Entry Permitted

NC2806114788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] A meeting was held at the house of the leader of the Popular Nasirite Organization at 1300 today, attended by representatives of the Palestinian and leftist parties and factions. They reviewed the final decision to allow pro-'Arafat gunmen into the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp. It has also been reported that an agreement was reached during the meeting to let some women and children from the convoy enter Sidon.

According to the latest security reports, some Palestinian women demonstrators tried to cross the Al-Awwali bridge from the southern part to join the Palestinian convoy at 1300. Shots were heard in the vicinity of the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp, but the reasons for the gunfire have not been made clear.

Pro-'Arafat gunmen in the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah camps have declared a full alert in order to confront any decision denying the expelled Palestinians entry into Sidon.

The commander of Fatah troops in the Sidon area, Lieutenant Colonel 'Ala', has stated that the forces of the Palestinian revolution in the South have been ordered to a maximum state of alert. He threatened that these forces will not sit idly by over the crimes committed by the gangs of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] and the political and military forces standing behind them, alluding to Syria.

Beirut-Sidon Road Closed

NC2806141988 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] The coastal road between Beirut and Sidon was closed again this afternoon, but it was opened for 30 minutes at 1515. Only nine wounded Palestinians have been admitted to Sidon hospitals.

Syria-'Dissident' Links Alleged

NC2806180888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Excerpts] On behalf of the displaced and distressed people in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps, Palestinians have appealed to Libya's Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Algeria's Chadli Bendjedid, urging them to work to stop the massacres and destruction in the camps being carried out by the Syrian forces, which are supposed to preserve peace in the camps. The appeal said that the camps are being bombarded by Syrian tanks, artillery, and rockets. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, a responsible source in West Beirut has told the local news agency that a few days ago, before the fall of Shatila to the dissidents, Palestinian groups loyal to Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], acting on his orders, began touring the Palestinian camps. They were offering the inhabitants tempting salaries to transfer to the town of Zarka in Jordan. According to the same source, Syria prompted Abu Musa to make this move to expel the largest possible number of Palestinians from Lebanon. The basic aim of this step is to lessen as much as possible the presence of 'Arafat supporters. The source predicts that the dissidents will transfer the battle to the Burj al-Barajinah camp to strike at 'Arafat's supporters after consolidating their control of Shatila.

According to the same source, if peaceful efforts to expel the 'Arafatists from Burj al-Barajinah fail, the dissidents will deliver a violent military blow to the camp, with Syria's indirect military backing and full political support.

Libyans Mediate Dispute

LD2806175588 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1634 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Beirut, 28 Jun (JANA)—A group of Libyan Arab officers has settled the fratricidal clashes in the Palestinian Shatila camp.

The group of Libyan Arab officers, which was entrusted with this mission by the Pan-Arab Command of Arab Revolutionary Forces, escorted the pro-'Arafat contingent out of the camp after the siege was lifted.

A source at the Pan-Arab Command of Arab Revolutionary Forces told JANA that the Command hoped that the causes of the internecine fighting no longer existed and that it was asking the revolutionary faction members of the Pan-Arab Command of Arab Revolutionary Forces to comply with the Command's orders.

More Fighting Anticipated

JN2806180388 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Following the departure of the pro-Yasir 'Arafat partisans from Shatila camp and the control of the camp by the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah] group, is there any possibility of similar incidents in the nearby Burj al-Barajinah camp? There is no evidence of future possibilities except statements by Abu Musa supporters today. The first statement deals with Shatila camp and those who are entitled to return to it. The second implies an obvious threat to Yasir 'Arafat's supporters in the Burj al-Barajinah camp.

Regarding the first statement, Colonel Abu Musa's command urged the residents of the Shatila camp to return there, except Yasir 'Arafat's supporters. It adds that all the Palestinian organizations, except those belonging to the PLO leader, have the right to come to Shatila camp. Regarding Burj al-Barajinah camp, Abu 'Isa, an official in the Abu Musa command, announced that to avert a repetition of the Shatila incidents in Burj al-Barajinah,

Yasir 'Arafat should announce his approval of the Libyan-sponsored agreement signed last Saturday. The agreement stipulates the formation of a joint Palestinian force to supervise the previous positions of the Abu Musa supporters in Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps in order to hand them over to the Abu Musa command before it withdraws its reinforcements from the areas of the two camps.

It is known that the incidents began in the camps' areas after Abu Musa supporters were expelled from Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps. Now it seems that following their entry into Shatila camp, the Abu Musa supporters are looking toward Burj al-Barajinah camp to regain their positions there. But how? Is the cycle of violence only beginning?

'Ayn al-Hulwah Greets Fighters

NC2806191188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1815 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Forty pro-'Arafat fighters who were evicted from the Shatila camp entered the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp this evening in groups. They were received with Palestinian demonstrations and bursts of fire. Some 10,000 inhabitants of the camp carried the fighters when they entered the camp, waved Palestinian flags, and chanted slogans in support of Yasir 'Arafat. In a speech, Shatila's military commander Yusuf al-Sharqawi accused Syria of devastating Shatila, saying that he who wants a strategic balance with the enemy would not destroy Shatila.

Meanwhile, Fatah's leader in Lebanon, Abu Iyad, [Salah Khalaf] has said: Shatila has fallen, but the revolution will continue. Also, the Nasirite Popular Organization's roadblocks between Al-Awwali and Siniq are still in force, and patrols continue. Shatila inhabitants who fled the camp were allowed to return to retrieve whatever they can from the rubble of their homes.

'Arafat Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi for Efforts

JN2806175388 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1622 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] An official Palestinian source has stated the following: The PLO Executive Committee has reviewed in its constant meetings the brotherly efforts by brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to stop the plight and the shelling of the Palestinian camps in Beirut. The brother chairman of the Executive Committee presented a detailed report on the latest meeting with brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on this matter and on the results of his visit to Algeria and the goodwill efforts made by the brothers in Algeria to end this ordeal.

On the evening of 26 June 1988, a number of Libyan officers entered Shatila camp to follow up this subject. Following this, brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] telephoned brother leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhddhafi thanking him for his goodwill efforts.

The PLO thanks the seven-party Palestinian-Lebanese committee, which contributed and [word indistinct] to this subject. It also thanks all brothers and parties that helped and are helping to end this ordeal of the Palestinian camps, so that all efforts may be directed against the Zionist enemy, and all means of support be provided to the blessed uprising of our people.

3 Killed in Explosion Near Fatah Post 27 Jun

NC2706110888 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] An explosion occured in a military vehicle near a post belonging to Fatah-the Central Committee on the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah road outside 'Ayn al-Hulwah this morning. Three persons were killed in the blast: Lieutenant Khalil Jum'ah, Ahmad Maw'id, and Nasir 'Amayrah.

Fatah Official Urges Return to Shatila

NC2806160788 Marj 'Uyun Voice of Hope in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Abu 'Isa, member of the Provisional Command and chief of the operations room for Fatah-the Uprising, held a news conference today. He announced a halt to the military operations in the Shatila camp and urged the camp's inhabitants to return to their homes and rebuild what has been destroyed. He affirmed that there are agreements to avert a repetition of the Shatila incidents in Burj al-Barajinah. Abu 'Isa called on 'Arafat supporters to abandon what he termed the deviationist line and to adhere to the Fatah's initiative. He accused 'Arafat and his gangs, as he put it, of plotting to cause a battle in Iqlim al-Kharrub, Beirut, and in the north, and expressed his belief that a final solution to this situation would be to establish a Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian alliance.

Sa'd Explains PNO Position on Palestinians

NC2806145188 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Popular Nasirite Organization [PNO] leader Mustafa Sa'd made the following statement a short time ago: The PNO's stand stems from its eagerness to establish Palestinian camps where they should be established, whether in the South or in Beirut. The PNO believes that the camp evacuation may be a prelude to similar evacuations from other camps. The PNO, therefore, insists on keeping the Palestinian people where they are in their camps. As we stress this point, we are not setting borders between one area and another in Lebanon. We are struggling for Lebanon's unity and have paid a dear price for that goal. On behalf of the PNO and key figures in Sidon, I announce that the road will be reopened for the public in both directions, asserting the unity of the homeland and its citizens.

Sa'd added: We condemn the fighting that has taken place, especially at this stage, when the Palestinian soil is witnessing a revolution of outrage against the Zionist entity. This revolution has unified the Arab homeland toward its goals and must unify all of us to support the Palestinian people and their cause. We thank the Syrian and Libyan leaderships and all the loyal forces for their efforts to put an end to this human tragedy.

Sa'd's statement comes while two meetings are in session, including one at his home attended by Sa'd, Libyan Lieutenant Colonel Salim Farjani, and representatives of nationalist parties, Islamic forces, and the Amal Movement. They were later joined by Dr Marwan Faris, deputy leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party; Akram Shuhayyib, PSP Political Bureau member; and Ilyas 'Atallah, Lebanese Communist Party Political Bureau member. A second meeting is being held at Mr Sa'd's office. Attending that meeting are representatives of the Palestinian factions in the Sidon camps and Abu Khalid al-Shamal, Popular Struggle Front Central Committee member, who has just arrived from Beirut.

The Sidon-Beirut road was reopened to the public in both directions at 1450 today. The fighters' convoy is still stopped at an PNO roadblock in Al-Awwali, at the northern entrance to Sidon.

Syrians Raid Homes of Former Amal Officials

NC2506105688 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] According to reports from Al-Biqa', Syrian intelligence authorities have raided the home of Mustafa al-Dirani, a former Amal military official who had been ousted from the movement. However, the reports add, though Al-Dirani was not at home during the raid, the Syrians discovered documents and messages in his home pertaining to his dealings with pro-'Arafat Palestinians and Iranian groups in Lebanon.

In another development, Syrian intelligence men also stormed the home of 'Aqil Hamiyah, a former Amal official, in order to interrogate him. They were acting on information that he has returned to his home in Mazra'at Bayt Sulaybi.

Syrians Arrest PSP Official for 'Collaboration'

NC2606055588 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] According to security sources, Syrian occupation forces have set up a checkpoint in the town of Al-'Azzuniyah and have arrested PSP official Kamal Abu Zayn al-Din on charges of collaboration with pro-'Arafat Palestinians in the area.

Syrian Forces, Hizballah Clash in Ba'labakk

NC2706193788 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Violent clashes took place tonight between Syrian forces and Hizballah gunmen near the Ala' al-Din gas station on Ra's al-'Ayn road in Ba'labakk. The clashes lasted for 30 minutes and the Hizballah gunmen then withdrew from the city streets, which are now being patrolled by the Syrians.

Syrians Close Coastal Road in Al-Jiyah Area

NC2806061188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Political sources expect the Syrian forces to enter the Iqlim al-Kharrub area within 48 hours after the Syrian Army has completed setting up roadblocks at the entrances to the Iqlim area facing the coastal road. The Syrian Army closed the coastal road in the Al-Jiyah area in both directions this morning.

PSP sources reported that party leader Walid Junblatt has ordered party members and cadres in the Iqlim area to turn the military offices into political ones, to not appear in public carrying arms, and to terminate the role of the security police once the Syrian deployment has been completed.

Irish UNIFIL Force Blocks Israeli Deployment

NC2806124188 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] A security source in the South has stated that a state of tension reigns in the Haddathah area in the security strip between the UNIFIL's Irish contingent and Israeli forces. This state of tension, according to the source, cropped up when an Israeli force consisting of vehicles, two bulldozers, and a number of infantry tried to deploy alongside a position manned by the Irish troops. The Irish unit declared a state of alert and detailed a support force to surround the occupation troops, thus preventing the Israelis from establishing a position.

Paper Reports Meeting With U.S. on Hostages

PM2806145588 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 Jun 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "U.S. Envoy Flies Secretly to Damascus To Discuss Hostages"]

[Text] Washington, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that a special U.S. envoy left Washington last night for Damascus to meet with senior Syrian officials, particularly President Hafiz al-Asad. According to U.S. sources, the envoy, whose name has not been disclosed, will discuss the U.S. hostages held in Lebanon and other issues. The sources add that the United States hopes that the hostages will be released and that the efforts made in this connection will succeed. Syria plays an auxiliary role in these efforts. President al-Asad and other Syrian officials have conveyed to U.S. officials their willingness to work for the release of the hostages.

Reports published yesterday indicate that Syrian intelligence services in Lebanon have managed to pinpoint the location where the hostages are held which, they say, is an area not exceeding a few hundred square yards. These reports, however, confirm the Syrian belief that the use of armed force to free the hostages would be extremely dangerous and unlikely.

Lebanon's Franjiyah Received by Al-Asad 22 Jun

JN2206153888 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] At 1215 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah and his son Robert Franjiyah. The talks dealt with the situation from every prspective and the mission emerging before the Lebanese for achieving national reconciliation. President Franjiyah, his son, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and Presidential Affairs Minister Wahib Fadil had lunch with the president.

Franjiyah Departs 23 Jun

JN2306113788 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah and his son Robert Franjiyah Left Damascus at 0915 today at the end of a 2-day visit to the country during which the former president met with President Hafiz al-Asad. He was seen off at Damascus northern entrance by Presidential Affairs Minister Wahib Abu Fadil. In a statement to SANA, Franjiyah expressed total satisfaction with his visit to Damascus and with the results of the visit. He expressed the hope that the Lebanese crisis would end as soon as possible.

Khaddam on Franjiyah Visit, Lebanese Situation

NC2306133288 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Sulayman Franjiyah returned to Zgharta today after concluding a visit to Damascus during which he had talks with Syrian leaders on various local developments. Franjiyah expressed full satisfaction with the results of his visit. He also expressed hope that Lebanon's crisis would soon end. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who met with Franjiyah, has told Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon: His Excellency Former President Sulayman Franjiyah is a dear friend. In all our meetings, we exchange views on all issues that concern Lebanon and Syria. Our views on issues discussed are always identical. [passage omitted]

In light of all that has been said about the Algiers meeting between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Khaddam was asked what he has to tell the Lebanese people about this meeting. He replied: The situation in Lebanon was reviewed, with emphasis on the importance of providing the appropriate conditions for holding the presidential elections, in normal circumstances and in a way that would lead to Lebanon's salvation. Replying to another question on the resumption of Lebanese-Syrian talks, Khaddam said: Our hearts and ears are open to all that would help our people in Lebanon move past the current stage. All of us in Syria and Lebanon welcome anything new that would support and help the Lebanese people overcome the crisis.

Khaddam Confers With Lebanon's Al-Husayni

JN2206185288 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. Talks dealt with the Lebanese situation.

TISHRIN Views Iraq's 'Anti-Arab Practices'

PM2306142188 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 12 Jun 88 p 8

[Fa'iz al-Sa'igh article: "In the Enemies' Trench"]

[Text] Arab official and popular reactions to the summit conference and its resolutions have confirmed the Arab masses' aspirations and committed support for the revolution in the occupied homeland as being the most important event and battle for the Arab nation. Only the Iraqi regime's media are continuing their deception of the masses, their blackout on information, and their color change despite the bright sun that shines through the fingers of the children of the stones in occupied Palestine. How could a regime which is squandering fraternal Iraq's material and human resources at the wrong time and in the wrong place be with the revolution in the occupied territory? That regime was horrified

when the Arab leaders decided to make the occupied homeland's revolution the sole item on the agenda and the main issue at the Algiers summit conference.

Furthermore, when the Iraqi regime realized that the Arabs were going to Algiers with a view to backing and aiding the revolution in the occupied homeland as being the prime and most important factor in the battle that is the Arab-Zionist conflict, which it had abandoned, that regime openly received the head of the Camp David regime [Egypt's Mubarak]. They held a summit meeting which, judging by its timing and the issues discussed, was meant to be nothing but an answer to the Arab summit conference and Arab consensus and nothing but a way of standing in the same trench against the revolution of the occupied territory with Israel and the United States, which have been making relentless efforts to contain the revolution and destroy it either through envoys or through the subservient regimes whose role against the Arabs became clear when the Arab role against the Zionist enemy became clear.

In brief, Baghdad, which is supposed to be a factor in the Arab equation devised at the Algiers summit, is today subject to U.S. wishes and decisions and is busy violating national and pan-Arab values and wasting human and material resources in a fabricated and calculated conflict at the expense of the Arab-Zionist conflict and at the expense of the central Arab cause of Palestine and the related issues. If the distance between any Arab side and the Palestinian cause and revolution in the occupied homeland is the criterion on which our Arab masses, including the Iraqi masses, judge the identity and patriotism of that side, then where does the Iraqi regime stand and where has it been standing since the beginning of its war, which on the surface appears to be directed against a different target is in actual fact against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation?

A regime which joins hands with the Camp David regime to abort the uprising and prevent it from continuing and spreading, at a time when all the Arabs stand united in support of the uprising and in providing everything needed for its continuation and victory, is a regime whose real identity and place are known to the Arab masses. The fraternal Iraqi people are well aware of the tasks undertaken by that regime— tasks which have brought calamities to the point of selling government establishments and public sectors and cancelling the role of the masses by destroying the Iraqi human and material capabilities which, had it not been for this suspect role of the regime, would have been one of the main sources of support for the revolution of the stones and its continuation in the occupied homeland.

The Iraqi regime's farce has been going on for a long time and its stages and actions become more and more exposed. The regime crowned its anti-Arab practices when it opposed the unanimous Arab move to give the Arab-Israeli conflict top priority over all other disputes. The indigenous Iraqi people know how to draw the curtain and at whom to throw stones. Their history is full of lessons and examples.

Further on Arab-European Dialogue Resumption

JN2606114988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 26 Jun 88

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Usurped Arab Rights and Europe's Historic Responsibility," AL-THAWRAH says: After being suspended 9 years ago, the Arab-European dialogue resumed its normal course of discussing the issues that are of common interest to both sides, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict and the dangerous situation in the occupied Arab territories.

The joint statement issued by the first meeting of the tripartite ministerial committee indicated that agreement has been secured on the need to bring about a new beginning in Arab-European dialogue and also that Europe is qualified to play an important and prominent role in the region's affairs. This acquires added significance, especially when we know that the Zionist aggression represents a detonator as well as a threat to world peace and security. This is a matter which requires a unified political European stand that rejects the colonialist plan being pursued by the Zionist entity, which is the base of U.S. imperialism in the region. Such a stand would consequently express an objective, neutral, and balanced trend, stressing the importance of finding a comprehensive, just, genuine, and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict—a solution based on the premise that peace and the continuation of occupation cannot coexist.

The seriousness of a viable Arab-European dialogue must be shown by the emergence of a European consciousness of its historic responsibility toward the plight of the Palestinian people, toward their inalienable national rights, and also toward the danger posed by Zionist occupation to the region, to Europe, and to world peace and security. From now until the General Assembly, the central body of the Arab-European dialogue, meets, there is much that needs to be done by Europe to crystallize a clear, specific, and practical policy divorced from the Israeli perspective and from subservience to the United States, so as to support Arab rights against Zionist crimes, to help guarantee European interests, and to enhance the march of Arab-European relations.

AL-BA'TH Cited on Rabin's U.S. Visit

JN2706085488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 27 Jun 88

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Dangers Behind Rabin's Washington Visit," AL-BA'TH says: The Zionist propaganda machine has become bewildered and the Zionist

enemy leaders have found themselves face to face with the truth that they are Nazis and that their entity, Israel, represents the most striking features of neo-Nazism in the world. This may be one of the direct reasons behind the Zionist tours to Western capitals. Rabin's visit to the United States may be a definite result of the Americans' awareness of the nature of Israel and Zionism.

The U.S. White House is extremely embarrassed before world opinion by the spectre of Zionist terrorism which, after it was exposed by the Palestinian uprising in the occupied homeland, no longer remains hidden. For this reason, we see American agencies creating news and fabricating events to show that the Zionist entity is in need of U.S. mercy and support. When American agencies come out with libelous statements about the armament of an Arab country with new weapons, they are trying to cover for Israel's crimes and to show the Arabs as the only party that threatens peace in the region.

The paper asks: Will the visit by the Zionist minister of war to the United States be the beginning of tension between the two sides? Or will it be used to explore timing the U.S. green light to Israel and Ronald Reagan's farewell to the White House to coincide with an act that would have an effect on Zionist voters in the United States? Since the U.S. and Zionist sides are moving in the same direction against the uprising and Arab steadfastness, then we believe that Rabin's visit to Washington has more to with war than peace. Otherwise, why was Rabin's visit preceded with a campaign over the arrival of new weapons to the Arab (?stronghold). Those who planned the campaign which preceded the Zionist war minister's visit to Washington have forgotten that the Arab shield, represented by Syria, is alert and careful, and can trace and discover facts, despite all the U.S.-Zionist attempts to camouflage and hide them.

Commentary Views U.S., Israeli Arms Policies

JN2706143488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Yitzhaq Shamir, Shim'on Peres, and Yitzhaq Rabin have suddenly become advocates of peace; opponents of armament; and eager to see security, stability, and peace in the Middle East. Nobody in the world expected this. It is occasioned by a report, fabricated by U.S. and Israeli intelligence and psychological warfare centers, saying that the PRC plans to sell intermediate-range surface-to-surface missiles to Syria. Stress should be placed on the word plan and its meaning. Shamir raised his voice, warning that this plan threatens and endangers security and stability in the region.

Those who hear Shamir's cries over security and stability may imagine that the man has never held anything except the olive branch and has never spread anything but flowers and roses in front of people. They may imagine that the man who practiced individual and collective terrorism, war crimes, and crimes against humanity; called for the crime of annihilation of the race [not further identified]; planned aggressive wars; and firmly adopted the policy of annexation, occupation, and eviction of nations from their lands, houses, and homelands, is someone else—someone who has nothing to do with the man who warns against the dangers of an action which has not taken place against security, peace, and stability in the Middle East.

This practice of Shamir and his colleagues among the Israeli rulers is the practice of thieves who shout loudly: Catch that thief. It is well known far and near that it is the Israeli rulers who introduced the arms race into the region; that it is the Israeli rulers who take whatever they want from the arsenals of the United States and the other colonialist countries; that it is the Israeli rulers who produce planes and tanks; that it is the Israeli rulers who have developed the Jericho missile that can reach the Soviet border; and it is the Israeli rulers who began the game of the nuclear weapons in the region, who stole uranium and heavy water, and turned the Dimona reactor into a center of nuclear energy for military purposes. The entire world also knows that the Israeli rulers have refused to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, while Syria and other Arab countries have signed it. It is Israel's rulers who have used weapons to destabilize security and peace in the region. It is also their policy of force that has made the Middle East a perpetual source of tension and war. The weapons given to them are used to occupy new territories and violate the UN Charter and its resolutions. More than any other country in the world, Israel has been the target of UN condemnation for aggression, occupation, and violation of international law.

How can those who violate the law challenge the international community and the United Nations; commit aggression and war crimes; threaten security and peace in the region and the world; and shed crocodile tears over security and stability, which they themselves have destroyed through their policy, actions, and crimes?

The goal of the Israeli rulers is not to defend security and stability in the region but to distract attention from their crimes against the revolutionary Palestinian people, who oppose their occupation, crimes, and regional ambitions on one hand and to justify their efforts to obtain new weapons from the United States and other countries on the other. The Israeli rulers, who destroyed peace in the region 4 decades ago and are continuing their crimes, oppose a just peace, security, and stability in the region, because they reject peace and its supporters; ignore the UN Charter and international law; and adopt a policy of force, aggression, and fait accompli. Syria is an independent state, has been subjected to aggression, and has territories occupied by Israel, which refuses to withdraw from them in accordance with the UN resolutions. Syria has the right to defend itself in all possible ways.

Afghanistan

Appeals Issued on Pakistan's 'Breach' of Accords

Foreign Ministry Statement

LD2806211488 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Here is a statement from the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan:

The world mass media has reported that the seven-party alliance based in Pakistan announced the establishment of a so-called interim government of Afghanistan at a press conference on 30 Jawza 1367 corresponding to 19 June 1988 in the city of Peshawar. The Government of Afghanistan has vigorously protested this to the Pakistani authorities in memorandum No 32 dated 22 June 1988 corresponding to Saratan 1367 to the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP].

The Republic of Afghanistan is well aware of the efforts of the ruling circles of some countries, especially Pakistan, to create unity among the forces opposing the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and to create grounds for obtaining a parallel and symmetrical political identity. In fact, these efforts, of which the establishment of an interim government by Afghan armed opposition groups is a part, create another major obstacle which will lead to further complications in the present situation and create a completely unnatural and illegal element in relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan. There is no doubt that the establishment of an illegitimate and illegal government in the territory of Pakistan puts Islambad in a difficult and serious position from the point of view of international law.

On the one hand, this is a clear and blatant breach of Pakistani commitments undertaken in the Geneva agreements, particularly, of clause 4, article 2 on noninterference and nonintervention. On the other hand, it contravenes the most fundamental principles and laws of relations between states, which are reflected in the UN Charter and other credible and recognized documents of international law. In accordance with the cited section of the Geneva agreement, the soil of neither country should be used to breach the national sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, or national unity of the other side, or to disrupt the political and socioeconomic stability of the other.

By allowing the establishment of a so-called interim government by the seven-party alliance of the armed opposition in Pakistan, that country has also trampled on its commitments regarding agreements on the observation of the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of the other side and refraining from actions aimed at toppling the political regime of the other.

For the purposes of normalizing relations and maintaining good-neighborly relations, what the Republic of Afghanistan wants from Pakistan is reflected in the emphasis on noninterference and nonintervention as principal aims and goals. How can the establishment of a so-called interim government of the Afghan opposition in Pakistan, which occurs before the eyes of Pakistan and with its encouragement and support, be reconciled with these aims and goals?

At a time when the people of Afghanistan and Pakistan and the world are looking forward to the successful implementation of the Geneva agrements to solve one of the most complicated regional disputes, Pakistan's unwise and adventurist act will only serve to increase tension and deepen misunderstandings. The continuation of these actions is a clear and obvious violations of the Geneva agreements.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan draws the attention of the UN secretary general as well as that of the Soviet Union and the United States, as guarantors of the agreements, to the unpleasant and dangerous consequences of this territorial violation by the Pakistani authorities. The Republic of Afghanistan hopes that they will play their respective roles to ensure the serious observation of the agreements.

The world conscience and public opinion hope that the Geneva agreements will be honestly and cordially observed and that no mockery will be made of the many years of efforts by the international community.

Appeal to World Parliaments

LD2906054688 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0505 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Kabul, June 28, BAKHTAR—The National Assembly of Afghanistan in the joint session of its both houses held here on June 27 issued a message addressing the peoples and parliaments of the world.

The message has asked the members of the parliaments of the world to cooperate with the people of Afghanistan in implementation of the Geneva accords and not let that such a good example for the solution of other regional conflicts undermined by the irresponsible approach of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

"We ask you to convince the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in a way you deem it proper to accomplish its commitments under the Geneva accords—which was signed by Pakistan itself as a sovereign and independent country", the message notes.

The parliament of the Republic of Afghanistan which is composed of the deputies of all strata, classes and nationalities of Afghanistan and resumed its work after fifteen years interval enjoys their wide support. The Afghan parliament [was] formed in the conditions when

the situation has changed in the interests of cessation of war and bloodshed and reaching to a nation-wide peace in the country, the message says.

Prime Minister Chairs First Cabinet Session

LD2806215988 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] The Secretariat of the Council of Ministers reported to BAKHTAR that the first formal session of the cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Muhammad Hasan Sharq, was convened this morning in the headquarters of the Council of Ministers.

The prime minister began the work of the first session of the cabinet in the name of Almighty God and with the desire to restore peace and calm in the country. The ministers' duties were specified so they may implement government policy according to the valuable instructions of Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, which were given when he received the cabinet delegation in the presidential office headquarters.

At the first session of the cabinet, Niamatullah Pazhwak, minister counsellor, was unanimously elected as secretary of the Council of Ministers.

The session considered a proposal by the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers about the purchases and sale of various properties belonging to the country's subjects, and approved the following:

1. To implement the policy of national reconciliation and to provide facilities for the compatriots, the purchase and sale of people's immovable property through the courts is being endorsed in accordance with the enforcible laws of the country. Agreement by the wards of the municipalities in the capital and provinces of the country is necessary to substantiate the purchases and selling prices of the immovable property belonging to the subjects of the Republic of Afghanistan.

2. The Council of Ministers Executive Committee standing commission for buying and selling immovable property of subjects of the Republic of Afghanistan, and other commissions for buying and selling subjects' immovable property in Kabul municipality and in the provinces, are to be disbanded.

The session also discussed a Ministry of Tribal Affairs proposal to end the work of the Central Council of the High Council of Border Tribes inside the country, the Central Council of the Hazara Nationality, and the Central Council of Nomads, and approved the following:

1. Now that the Meli Shura, which consists of representatives of nationalities, tribes, and clans, has been been created, the central councils of the High Council of Border Tribes inside the country, the Hazara nationality, and nomads, are to be disolved in accordance with the proposal of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

2. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is henceforth to be called the Ministry of Border Affairs.

Moreover, the Council of Ministers decided that the department of direct cooperation, its organization, budget, and equipment, be merged with the Ministry of Commerce.

At this cabinet session the work of ministers and ministries with the people, government, and Secretariat of the Council of Ministers was specified, and necessary decisions were made after free discussions and exchanges of views on a series of organizational issues, contracts, the financial and economic affairs of a number of government departments, as well as a series of domestic and international issues.

At this Council of Ministers session 46 issues were discussed. A limited number of issues were passed to commissions for further consideration.

The Council of Ministers session ended at 1930.

Ministers Attend Badakhshan Defense Session

LD2806221288 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] A session of the Badakhshan Province defense council was convened yesterday. Discussion centered on decisions needed to restore peace and calm in the villages of this province. The necessary decisions were made.

BAKHTAR's military section reports that Lieutenant General Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of internal affairs; 'Abdul Bashir Baghlani, minister of justice; and Lieutant General Shahnawaz Tanay, commander of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, also took part in this session. They drew the participants' attention to the duties and future responsibilities in light of the national reconciliation policy.

Ahmad Shah Questions Soviet Withdrawal

NC2906072388 Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish 26 Jun 88 p 4

[Zafer Atay report: "Recognize Us Now"]

[Excerpts] Ahmad Shah, current leader of the provisional government of free Afghanistan, sent the following message to Ankara during an interview with a group of Turkish journalists in Peshawar, Pakistan:

"The Turkish Government must recognize us officially. The Turkish Government has been supporting our jihad since the very beginning. Turkey must not abandon us at the hour of victory." Ahmad Shah's interview was his first with the international press. [passage omitted]

Ahmad Shah asserted that the Afghan mujahidin control 90 percent of Afghanistan. Regarding a the regime they wish to establish, he said:

"Our objective is to set up an Islamic state. It will be a system based on the Koran and the rules of Islam. Islam will be introduced in all domains of daily life. Our state will not be similar to that of Iran or Pakistan nor will it be similar to that of Saudi Arabia. Our system will comply with Afghan traditions."

Claiming that the Soviet Union, which is a superpower, was forced to withdraw from Afghanistan after being defeated by the jihad, Ahmad Shah said:

"If they are actually withdrawing, the problem will be resolved within 8 or 9 months. We shall return to Kabul. But the Soviet Union is never truthful. They told the Afghan Government when they occupied Bukhara that they would withdraw after 30 days. They are still there 65 years later. Undoubtedly, even if they withdraw their troops they will leave behind civilian advisers and other personnel."

Ahmad Shah claimed that there were 4,000 or 5,000 communists among the Afghan people. He asserted:

"The puppet officials in Kabul will be punished in accordance with Islamic justice. As for the other officials, well, we have added an article to the constitution which we made public at the beginning of the year. If they surrender to the mujahidin without delay, they will benefit from the general amnesty which will be declared after liberation. I would like to make it clear that even the most ferocious communists will be allowed to benefit from Islamic justice if they surrender to the mujahidin and repent.

"Let me repeat: There will be no bloodshed in Kabul, as was the case in Iran, after the city is liberated. Therefore, the best thing for the Soviet Union to do would be to withdraw all its men.

"There is one thing I would like to explain at this point. The entire world believes that Gorbachev is a good man and that is why the Soviet Union is withdrawing from Afghanistan. That is not the case. That superpower has been defeated militarly in Afghanistan. They have killed 2 million people, even communists. Think about Tarakhi and Amin. They were Moscow's men. Nevertheless, they were killed. We oppose this. We can kill a communist Afghan if necessary, but a foreign power cannot."

Ahmad Shah noted that after the liberation of Afghanistan they would like to establish good relations with the United States, which has been supporting their struggle. He added: "We would also establish normal relations with the Soviet Union if that country pledged not to interfere in our internal affairs." [passage omitted]

Recalling that his government will be in existence for 1 year at the most, Ahmad Shah asserted that it would be impossible to hold elections before security was established in Afghanistan. However, he said that elections would be held in the liberated regions within 4 months. [passage omitted]

Opposition Leader on Political, Military Changes

PM2706141388 Madrid CAMBIO 16 in Spanish 6 Jun 88 pp 85-87

[Interview with Mas'ud Khalili, Jamiyat-e Eslami leader, by Julio Fuentes in Peshawar; date not given]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Fuentes] Has there been any political or military change in the situation in Afghanistan since the Soviet withdrawal began?

[Khalili] There has been, above all, a military change. The Soviets are not undertaking as many military actions as previously. They have abandoned some important roads, and we can now bring our weapons in along these roads, despite the bombings of the past few days. At present they occupy only highly strategic areas. The Najibullah government wants to show that the Soviets are leaving, although they are leaving only the unimportant areas. The toughest war begins now, in the provinces and in the cities. Both we and the Afghan Army will fight to occupy the posts abandoned by the Soviets.

[Fuentes] Do you plan to seize Kabul in the medium term? Do you have the strength for it?

[Khalili] We ask ourselves whether we are ready to do this, and also what we would do if we seized Kabul and power. These are unanswered questions. We believe that we can oust the Kabul government, but we do not want to be overly optimistic.

[Fuentes] Has the start of the Soviet withdrawal meant more of a psychological than a military or political victory for you?

[Khalili] The mujahidin's morale is higher now. We all believe that the Soviets are surrendering, even if they are not quitting. We believe that if we kill the boss we can overpower the servants, the Afghan regulars and their government.

[Fuentes] Yet no families of refugees are packing their bags to return to Afghanistan...

[Khalili] This is another of our questions; whether or not the refugees will return. Most will not do so until Kabul falls. We must provide them security. About 10 people live in each refugee tent and mud house. Of these, six are civilians and four are mujahidin. But as long as they can hear the mujahidin's cries, they will continue to go and fight in Afghanistan.

[Fuentes] Many people believe that if you seize power, a new war will begin, this time between the various parties, due to the profound differences between them...

[Khalili] To take power we seven parties must become more united and make decisions together, planning with a single mind. Politically, we must convince people that we are capable of governing the country.

[Fuentes] What is the current state of relations between the seven parties of the Islamic alliance?

[Khalili] They are better than they used to be. There are rivalries, but they are surmountable. Any party not interested in resolving differences will be expelled from the alliance. The Afghan people have given us their children, their food, and their lives. No more blood must be shed through clashes between parties. That is precisely what the Soviets want to be able to say: "Now we are not there. They are killing each other."

[Fuentes] Do you not believe that the Kabul government could also have many supporters within the country?

[Khalili] The Afghan left is just a Soviet puppet. The Kabul government has no right to govern because it invited the Soviets to kill a million Afghans and to expel millions of them. They are responsible for the destruction of 60 percent of the country.

[Fuentes] What will become of the resistance if the U.S. Government decides to discontinue aid, in compliance with the Geneva accords?

[Khalili] Well, it will be difficult to carry on. We began without aid, but we hope not to end without it. We need long-range artillery, a great deal of ammunition, and money in order to transport the weapons and to be able to survive. In addition to this, Saudi Arabia gives us a good deal of money.

[Fuentes] What are the differences between the resistance parties?

[Khalili] Our ideology is the same—Islamic ideology—but our paths are different. We compete in everything—even in fighting the enemy—and everybody believes that he does better than the rest. If the Soviets leave now, the war will be brief and we will seize power within the next few months. In order to prevent a crisis or a civil war we would expel any party which creates problems, because some crazy commanders could do so. There could also be infiltrations by the Kabul government or hostile tribes, but nothing more dangerous than the Soviets. We have a garden with many flowers, and even if winter comes, the flowers will still be there. Among our best flowers are 200,000 armed men. If there are any who do not fight, it is because they do not have the means.

Government, Rebel Operations, Clashes Reported

18 Killed by Landmine

LD2806213688 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Planting anti-vehicle mines along the Towr Kham-Jalalabad highway, merciless extremists yesterday martyred a number of our compatriots. BAKHTAR's military section reports that a Toyota pick-up vehicle transporting our compatriots from Jalalabad to the villages located along the Towr Kham-Jalalabad highway, hit a mine in (Sorkh Dewar) region, martyring 18 of our compatriots, including children and women, and destroying the vehicle.

Mujahidin Attack in Baghlan

BK2906064588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say mujahidin forces attacked a security post on Salang highway near (Khemyan) in Baghlan Province last week, killing the commander of the post and capturing 12 Kabul soldiers. On the same day, a tank crew was killed in a mujahidin landmine blast in (Takhta-e Sind) area. According to reports, 40 Kabul soldiers, including a Soviet soldier, defected to the mujahidin side.

Briefs

Hashish Confiscated

Kabul, June 25, BAKHTAR—Four hundred and eighty two kilogrammes of hashish were confiscated by officials of criminal department of security authorities of the country recently. The haul which was imported with the assistance of professional extremist smugglers into the country for the purposes of addicting youths was destroyed. The smugglers were turned over to judicial authorities. [Text] [*LD2606061688 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 26 Jun 88*]

Bangladesh

Indian Diplomat's Letter Draws Protest

BK2906084788 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Bangladesh has taken strong exception to a letter written by the Indian deputy high commissioner in Dhaka to the editor of a weekly and expressed displeasure over the comments made in the letter about Bangladesh and its journalist community. A Foreign Office spokesman in Dhaka said the Indian high commissioner, I.S. Chadha, was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday and was told that the government was shocked at the tone and tenor of the letter written by a senior diplomat of a friendly country like India. Such a letter will neither serve the interests of India nor its bilateral relations with Bangladesh. The spokesman said such a

deliberate and unprovoked (?slur) on a friendly neighbor and its journalists will only be viewed as an attempt to undermine relations between the two countries.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh has dismissed as baseless reports in the Indian press that BDR [Bangladesh Rifles] is training Gurkha National Liberation Front cadres at a camp in Dalia across the border. Dismissing these reports as [words indistinct], an official spokesman in Dhaka said Bangladesh takes every care to spend its limited resources on the training of its own manpower and it has no program (?at all) to spend its money on useless services, least of all interfering in the internal affairs of another country.

India

7 Killed, 50 Injured in Assam Bomb Blasts

BK2906031988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] In Assam, at least 5 persons were killed and 50 injured in bomb blasts at Barpeta road yesterday evening. Fifteen of the injured are said to be in a serious condition. Our correspondent, Omkar Kedia, who visited the incident site reports that bombs exploded in front of a cinema hall, as people were coming out after the evening show.

In another incident at Nalbari about 70 km from Guwahati, one person was shot dead by some unidentified gunmen. The chief minister, Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, and the home minister, Brighu Kumar Phukan, have expressed concern over the recurrence of violence in the state. They assured the people that all necessary measures have been taken to apprehend the culprits.

Latest reports from Assam say the bomb blasts at Barpeta road have claimed seven lives.

Prohibitory Orders Issued

BK2906080588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Prohibitory orders have been promulgated in Barbeta Road township in Assam following the bomb blasts. Seven persons were killed and 50 injured, 15 of them seriously in the explosions in front of a cinema hall in Barpeta yesterday evening. Police have apprehended two persons for interrogation. The chief minister, Mr Prafulla Kumar Mahanta, and the home minister, Mr Brighu Kumar Phukan, have expressed concern over the recurrence of violence in the state.

2 'Terrorists' Killed in Amritsar District

BK2906033088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] In Punjab, two terrorists were killed in Amritsar District last night. According to an official spokesman, some terrorists attacked a police post in village Ghariala under Tarn Taran police station. In the exchange of fire which followed, two terrorists were killed, while the others fled.

In another incident in the district, a couple was gunned down by terrorists in village Balla late last night.

Bengal Chief, Gurkha Leader on Darjeeling Issue

BK2806162488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, has appealed to the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, and the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] president, Subhash Ghisingh, to create an atmosphere of understanding and confidence for a negotiated settlement of the problems of the Darjeeling hill areas. He met both the leaders separately in New Delhi today.

Mr Jyoti Basu emphasized the need for maintaining law and order to ensure the safety and security of life and property of the people.

Mr Ghisingh during his meeting narrated at length the use of force by the district authorities against GNLF activists and others in the area.

The discussions will continue.

Mr Subhash Ghisingh has condemned the current spate of violence in the Darjeeling hill areas. In a statement in New Delhi today, he said the GNLF believes in finding a negotiated and peaceful solution of problems of the Darjeeling hill areas. He said there has been violence all through by the elements opposed to such a solution. He alleged that the use of state machinery by the political authorities has aggravated the situation at all stages.

Paper Examines Solution to Sri Lanka Problem

BK2806152388 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 18 Jun 88 p 11

[Editorial: "Accord With LTTE?"]

[Text] Considering the latest indications, an agreement between the IPKF and the LTTE seems to be on the cards. The behind-the-scene activities that have been going on in recent weeks appear to have had a soothing effect on the militants. If all goes well, there will not only be a cease-fire but also elections in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. Recent developments have been conducive to restoration of peace in the strife-torn region. Colombo and New Delhi can derive comfort from the fact that the outcome of the provincial polls held so far

signifies the approval by the electorate of the Indo-Sri Lankan accord. The attempts of those who wanted to oppose the elections failed miserably. The SLFP which boycotted the polls could be regretting its decision. The concept of provincial autonomy has been accepted by the people, which is no mean achievement for the Jayewardene Government.

What is the next step in Sri Lanka? The ethnic conflict can be resolved only if the LTTE accepts the Sri Lankan accord and decides to participate in the democratic process. The IPKF has succeeded in taming the militants and the latest indication is that the LTTE is inclined to surrender its arms. But any sort of agreement between the LTTE and the IPKF cannot overlook the legitimate demands of the Tamils. It is therefore likely that New Delhi will persuade Colombo to issue a proclamation on the merger of the Northern and Eastern Provinces which is a basic provision of the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement. By dragging its feet on this issue, Colombo did create misgivings among the Tamils.

That is why the merger should precede the polls and the Sri Lankan government need not hesitate to take such a step. Once the merger takes place, there should be a cease-fire followed by surrender of arms by the LTTE. It will, however, be the responsibility of the IPKF to ensure that the disarmed militants do not suffer on any score. The next step should be the creation of an interim administrative council for the rehabilitation of those adversely affected by violence. Once peace and normalcy are restored, elections to the provincial council should take place.

It is not advisable to be too optimistic about the shape of things to come in Sri Lanka but things have certainly changed for the better. New Delhi has played a major role not only in checking the LTTE but also in changing the attitude of the Jayewardene Government to the Tamils. On the strength of the UNP victory in the provincial polls, President Jayewardene can afford to be somewhat generous to the Tamils. Meanwhile, having realised the futility in pursuing the terrorist course, the LTTE seems to have realised the need for reconciliation and rapprochement with the government. The combination of all these factors accounts for the promising signs noticeable in Sri Lanka.

Iran

New Council of Guardians Secretary Elected

LD2906125488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] Following the appointment by the imam of the ummah of Mr Mohammad Yazdi as one of the jurisprudents [foqaha] of the Council of Guardians, the council at its session today elected Ayatollah Mohammadi Gilani as the Council of Guardians' new secretary. The session also commended the sincere and selfless efforts and endeavors of the council's previous secretary, Ayatollah Safi.

Prime Minister on Resistance to 'Conspiracies'

LD2906132888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Jun 88

[Text] During this morning's cabinet session after discussing the main domestic and foreign events, IRGC Minister Rafiqdust presented a report on developments on the battlefields and the defeat of an enemy attack in the Darband-i Khan operational sector, which resulted in the killing and wounding of a large number of the duped Saddamist forces.

The prime minister [Musavi] then referred to the 28 June tragedy [explosion at the Islamic Republican Party Headquarters on 28 June 1981 which killed 72 officials] and the damage this horrific crime inflicted on the revolution. He said: This crime, which was carried out in order to halt the revolution, weaken the people's morale, and discourage the revolution's true supporters, was aborted, thanks to the people's defense of the revolution. The people ensured the revolution's continuation, contrary to the enemies' desire.

Mr Musavi added: The history of the nation's steadfastness in the face of conspiracies both great and small by the sworn enemies of the revolution has made it easier for us to resist and withstand all devious and extensive conspiracies. The country's sensitive situation will pass, thanks to the mobilization of the nation's and the government's undiminished forces under the banner of discipline and management.

Mr Musavi added: Our resistance in the face of the revolution's vicissitudes has made us stronger. Hardship has made our nation and revolution as strong as steel and we shall continue to grow in strength. He said: The 28 June tragedy not only did not weaken the revolution, it strengthened the revolution. The current ups and downs along the battlefronts will also be neutralized, thanks to our nation's determination.

He added: The former U.S. defense minister came to the Persian Gulf and said: We must destroy the roots of the Iranian nation. Today Saddam, the reactionaries, and the United States are pursuing this sinister objective, but the roots of our Islamic nation will not be destroyed by these conspiracies. Iran is a divine entity and a large country capable of defeating any enemy. The arrogant enemies of the revolution abroad imagine that by applying pressure they can force us to accept their conditions and destroy the Islamic Revolution. They are, as usual, making a mistake. We are resolved to continue our decisive resistance and to remain independent and stand on our own feet in an Islamic system, we are prepared to

remain in a state of struggle forever. Struggle is one of the particular features of a prepared nation that is defending its honor, religion, and homeland.

Following the prime minister's remarks, the memory of the 28 June martyrs was honored.

Also at today's cabinet session, Interior Minister Mohtashemi presented a report on steps to fight corruption and social and cultural difficulties; the removal of their centers, large and small; and the detention of key and corrupt elements involved in these matters. He also presented the Interior Ministry's programs for uprooting these social problems. The cabinet made some decisions in this connection.

At the conclusion of this session, a petition, signed by a large group of employees and staff of various departments and factories of the Central Province, was submitted to the cabinet in which the signatories declared their readiness to participate in the war. The petition in part stresses: In accordance with the imam's decrees, we once again declare our readiness to go to the battlefields and fight until the last drop of our blood, until our dying breath, and until the victory of justice is achieved over global blasphemy.

UN Delegation To Investigate Iraqi Use of Gas

LD2806224588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] We end the news reports of this bulletin with a report on the dispatch of a UN expert delegation to Tehran to investigate the deployment of chemical weapons:

[Unidentified correspondent] Following the Iraqi regime's intensive and repeated deployment of chemical weapons on the southern front, particularly in the Majnun Islands sector, it was announced at UN Headquarters this morning that an expert delegation of this organization will arrive in Tehran early next week. The delegation, comprising a physician, a chemical expert, and a military expert, is better qualified than the delegation which came to the region following the criminal chemical attack on Halabjah.

The important point about this delegation's visit is the fact that for the first time a delegation is being sent to the region within the framework of a Security Council resolution and it will submit its report directly to the Security Council. No doubt the delegation's report will create new problems for the Security Council, which, in accordance with Resolution No 312, is dutybound to stop the deployment of chemical weapons. UN diplomats believe that the Iraqi violation of Security Council Resolution No 312 has presented the council with a more serious situation in connection with the deployment of chemical weapons. These diplomats believe any negligence of the Security Council in adopting a more serious position against the Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons will have widespread international consequences. The diplomats have not said what the nature of these consequences will be.

This is the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran from London.

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 3,247

LD2806182488 Tehran IRNA in English 1746 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Tehran, June 28, IRNA—Iranian fighter bombers in two separate sorties heavily pounded Iraqi positions and troop concentration sites in Hajj 'Umran region, northeastern Iraq, Tuesday, inflicting considerable losses in men and equipment on the enemy.

The 3247th Joint Staff Communique, announcing the above, reported here today that the fighters returned safely to bases after successfully carrying out the bombing missions which took place at 10:05 and 10:10 hours local time (06:35 and 06:40 GMT).

At 17:30 hours local time (14:00 GMT) Monday, Iraqi warplanes bombed Dezli village on the outskirts of Marivan, northwestern Iran. They also tried to violate the airspace of the northwestern town of Paveh but were forced to flee and dropped their bombs on the region while flying at a high altitude.

Iran's Air Force jets also carried out their routine patrol missions over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman in support of the Navy Monday, reconnoitering 33 vessels of various kinds including cargo ships, oil tankers and warships.

In the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian naval units closely monitored movement of 10 cargo ships and oil tankers yesterday in compliance with Iran's policy of cutting Iraq's access to military equipment via this waterway.

On the battlefields, Iraqi troops suffered substantial casualties and losses yesterday when their positions, troop concentration sites and supply routes came under heavy Iranian artillery fire.

In Panjwin, Sumar, Naft-e Shah, Nahr 'Anbar and Yebis, Iranian artillery fire silenced fire of Iraqi tank squadrons Monday, inflicting heavy losses on them.

On Monday, heavy fire of Iran's Muslim combatants checked Iraqi engineering operations in Sumar and Qasr-e-Shirin and enemy logistical activities in Sayyid Sadiq, Shanadari, Hajj 'Umran, Sar Dasht, Helaleh and Naft-e Shah.

Iranian artillery fire suppressed Iraqi patrol operations in Salehabad and Nahr 'Anbar, western sector, yesterday, killing and wounding a number of enemy patrolmen, concluded the communique.

IRGC Ambushes Iraqi Troops

LD2806195388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] According to the Ramadan Headquarters, the center for the irregular warfare of the IRGC Ground Forces, during the current week the forces under the command of this headquarters in a series of ambushes between the villages of Mina and Kulkan in Iraq's Irbil Province destroyed a jeep and killed two Zionist Iraqi mercenaries named (Nijad Umar Usman) and (Rahat Sarkass Dawud). They also captured an Iraqi Army major named 'Abd al-Hamid Sa'id 'Abdallah of the 45th Iraqi Army Division. At the end of these operations the fighters of Islam all returned safely to base.

Nepal

Prime Minister Receives 'No Confidence' Vote

BK2806170288 Hong Kong AFP in English 1649 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] Kathmandu, June 28 (AFP)—Opposition members in the National Panchayat (parliament) Tuesday officially registered a motion of no confidence against Prime Minister Marich Man Singh Shrestha, parliamentary sources said.

The motion listed five charges against Mr Shrestha, including failure to properly control administrative corruption and pursuing bad economic policies, said the sources, who asked to remain anonymous.

It also charged him with demoralizing Panchayat workers and activists, failing to properly evaluate the traditional policy of co-existence, and being motivated by selfishness, they said.

But official registration of the motion would not endanger Mr Shrestha's position unless it was backed by the royal nominees, the 28 members of the Panchayat appointed by King Birendra, analysts here said. The other 112 members of the Panchayat are elected.

Pro-Marxist and Leninist members also have not supported the motion though they have pledged moral support when it is brought up for a vote, sources said. A two-thirds parliamentary majority would be needed to oust Mr Shrestha.

The parliamentary motion was proposed by former defence minister and retired British Gurkha officer Shree Prasad Budhathoki, the sources said.

Fifty other lawmakers, including former prime ministers Surya Bahadur Thapa, and Lokendra Bahadur Chand and former National Panchayat Chairman Rajeswore Devkota also signed the motion, they said.

Immediately after the registration, Mr Shrestha called an emergency cabinet meeting. When asked to comment, he said: "I don't want to make any comments right now. I will speak out some time later."

Mr Shrestha tried to stall approval of the motion, delaying its registration for about a week, sources said.

Following King Birendra's address to the Panchayat Wednesday, opposition members have consistently demanded Mr Shrestha's registration, observers said.

Under Panchayat regulations, it takes at least ten days for a motion to be brought before the house for a vote.

Pakistan

President's Address on Regional Cooperation

BK2806164088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 28 Jun 88

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that the future of South Asia lies in peace and cooperation, and can be realized only when the countries of this region recognize each other's sovereignty and equality in mutual cooperation. He was addressing the concluding session of the international conference on national stability and regional security of South Asia in Islamabad today.

The president emphasized that Pakistan and India, being the principal states in South Asia, have a special role and responsibility in creating a climate of trust and cooperation in the region. He said that the perception and interaction of these two countries have a real bearing on the pattern of relations between the countries of the region. It is time that the leaders of these two countries seriously resolve their differences instead of allowing them to continue. He said that if efforts are not made to create a conducive situation for the establishment of peace and friendship among the regional countries, then, he thinks, no purpose will be achieved.

The president recalled that Pakistan on its own has made a number of proposals to lessen tension and to create a climate of harmony. Pakistan has made the offer of a no-war pact, establishment of a nuclear-free zone, a bilateral agreement on nuclear nonproliferation, and the mutual reduction of the strength of the armed forces. The fact is that Pakistan is still looking forward to signing an agreement on not attacking each other's nuclear installations. He said India has given no positive response to these proposals so far. He expressed confidence that it is not impossible to conclude agreements between Pakistan and India through diplomatic means if sincere efforts are made.

The president stressed that with the restoration of mutual trust and cooperation between the two countries the people of South Asia, who constitute one-fifth of the world's population, will see a pleasant change in the region as well in the entire world.

The president emphasized the effective role the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation can play in establishing a region free from disputes, a zone of stability. The prominent feature of such a zone is that the larger neighboring country in that area will play the pivotal role in strengthening the trust in the relations between the countries. He said apparently India thinks the sovereign character of a country may improve or degenerate depending on the size of that country. No one has any objection to the importance enjoyed by India for being a large country. However, we cannot accept the argument that on the basis of only this factor, India should have a right to establish its ascendancy over other countries of South Asia.

The president also referred to India's doubts over other South Asian countries' developing relations with countries outside the region as a part of international cooperation. He said India sees Pakistan's relations with China and the United States only from a military perspective, while this aspect forms only a part of the overall relations. India itself is also acquiring nearly $6 billion worth of weapons from the Soviet Union at concessional rates to further strengthen its military capability. He said stability will be established when we understand that India is not poking its nose in Sind and when India stops thinking that Pakistan is inciting the Sikhs. He rejected the allegations by India that Pakistan is interfering in India's Punjab State. He said the Indian leaders have failed to explain how Pakistan is doing this. He added it is not appropriate for Pakistan to view the loss of India's cordiality in a lighthearted manner.

The president said the era of rights and influence is over. The world is moving toward universality and the mankind toward brotherliness. We cannot resist this trend.

The president stressed the importance of Pakistan's relations with countries to the west. Although Pakistan's links are with the South Asian region, it is also a part of Southwest Asia as well, the back door of the Gulf, and a part of the Islamic world.

The president mentioned the sacrifice made by 1 million Afghan people in their struggle against foreign domination to preserve their way of life.

The chairman of the international organization for military affairs, (Franco Isodor), gave details on the 3-day proceedings of the conference.